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MOSCOW REPORTAGE ON BREZHNEV ARMS PROPOSALS

Shishlin Commentary

LD181210 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0715 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary from the "Topical Problems of International Life" Program]

[Text] The international section of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech at the 17th congress of our country's trade unions is full of very important ideas and thoughts. I would like, first of all, to say that this speech contains a concise and very precise analysis of the contemporary international situation. All phenomena and all things in present-day reality are called by their proper names. This analysis arouses all the more interest, in that it is made a little more than a year after the 26th party congress and a little more than a year since the Reagan administration came to power in the United States.

The results of the foreign-policy activities of the Reagan administration I would describe as dismal. First of all, through the fault of the Reagan administration, the present arms race is in my opinion frightening America's allies themselves. This arms race has become of such a scale that it causes concern even in the United States itself. It is known that the U.S. senators introduced a special resolution on freezing nuclear weapons of the United States and the USSR and proposed that the U.S. Government should enter into negotiations with the Soviet Union on this problem.

Under the present U.S. administration, the United States' foreign policy line has become full of such things as proclaiming whatever region the United States thinks fit as a sphere of its vital interests. It has become characteristic of U.S. foreign policy to move away from dialogue with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and to try to speak in the language of force, the language of diktat and ultimatums, and in international economic relations, as is known, the language of sanctions from which the chief sufferers are not so much those against whom the sanctions are directed as those who are normally interested in business relations with the socialist countries -- in West Europe again.

An example of such activity by the United States -- an eloquent, expressive example -- is the line pursued by the United States throughout the entire Madrid meeting, which, as is known, broke off its work on 12 March. Representatives of the European states, the United States and Canada, had been in Madrid for 18 months altogether, not including interruptions in the work of these meetings. Even in February, when the meeting resumed its work, the United States wanted to shut the door, to break off the discussion of those problems which were at the center of attention in Madrid, and thus in effect to gain another argument in favor of whipping up tension and correspondingly in favor of those decisions on counterarming, or to put it more precisely, on securing military supremacy for the United States -- the alpha and omega of present-day Washington's foreign policy. Well, they did not succeed in shutting the door although the United States, with the support of certain other NATO countries, was able to complicate to some extent -- to a serious extent -- the work of the Madrid meeting. And in fact, this last stage in the work of this session, in February and the first days of March, was of course a stage of lost opportunities. Now, the representatives of the European states, the United States and Canada will not meet again in the Spanish capital until 9 November, and it is hard to say how things will go then.

As for the Soviet Union, together with its friends and allies, it, as is known, consistently pursued the line of trying to reach agreement and primarily agreement on holding an all-European conference on measures of trust and military detente.

This foreign-policy baggage of present-day Washington was very precisely and impartially assessed in Leonid Ilich's speech at the 17th Trade Union Congress -- though perhaps impartially is not quite the right word.

There was some partiality, because we are not indifferent when it is a matter of the fate of peace; we are not indifferent when it is a matter of the need to protect mankind against the danger of a new war. Comrade Brezhnev's speech gives a full answer to the question of what is to be done to achieve a turn for the better, what is to be done to ensure that the development of international relations, which are as it were at a fork in the road today, should take the good path, the good direction.

As is known, the proposals put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his speech at the trade union congress concentrate primarily on the problems of limiting and stopping the arms race. These proposals deal with the key problem: The problem of halting the arms race in nuclear medium-range missiles in Europe. You know, comrades, that talks are now going on in Geneva between the Soviet Union and the United States on this problem. It is true, by the way, that there is a break in these talks just at present. But the American participants in the talks, describing the position of the Soviet participants in the talks, say that the Soviet participants are taking the talks seriously. It is difficult to return this compliment to the United States. The United States, unfortunately, continues to take a destructive position because the zero option about which they continue to make so much noise is zero for the Soviet Union. But the United States wants to keep all the arms it has, and more than that, to add something to these arms.

The new Soviet proposals, backed up by such a demonstration of goodwill as a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in the European part of the USSR, such a display of goodwill as the decision -- unless there is some dramatic worsening of the international situation -- to reduce unilaterally the Soviet Union's existing medium-range missile weapons, do of course constitute a position which could and can give the green light to a really constructive dialogue in Switzerland between the Soviet Union and the United States on this problem of problems for the present European situation. Because without a solution of this question, Europe will of course appear as one of the most disturbed parts of the world.

Comrade Brezhnev's speech at the trade union congress also paid due attention to such a major problem as the limitation of strategic arms. You know, comrades, that the SALT-2 Treaty was signed by Brezhnev and Carter in Vienna, but this treaty never came into force because the United States refused to ratify it. But the problems remain. Furthermore, if the United States does nevertheless try to implement the known NATO decision on counterarming, that is the deployment in Europe of about 600 new American medium-range missiles, naturally the Soviet Union will be forced to take responsive measures so that the strategic balance of forces is not disturbed. And thus the Soviet Union will inevitable gain further capabilities of using its own destructive power to reach the territory of the United States, not only with the presently-existing arsenal of missile weapons.

But the Soviet Union is striving for a different development, a different course of events, and in this respect, the Soviet Union considers it necessary insistently to call on the United States to resume the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. And, as is clear from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech, the Soviet approach continues to be dictated by its interest in reaching agreement on all questions concerning the arms race, and primarily those concerning the nuclear arms race. These are of course, very major and important ideas. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech refers to the spreading of measures of trust to the seas and oceans. We should not forget that the seas and oceans cover two-thirds of the Earth's surface. Unfortunately, they too have become a zone of very active military activity, and the combat patrol areas of missile-carrying submarines are virtually limitless -- limited only by the bounds of our planet. And when Leonid Ilich Brezhnev proposes reaching an agreement on limiting the combat patrol zones, when he proposes agreeing on working out and applying measures of trust in the seas and oceans, these are of course ideas of great promise. And not only the Soviet Union and the United States have a vital interest in this.

It seems to me that these ideas should interest all states, primarily littoral states. We know, for example, how acute and urgent is the problem of some kind of demilitarization of the Indian Ocean -- maybe demilitarization is too strong a word, but at any rate the limitation of naval activity in the Indian Ocean to the states which are themselves on the shores of this stretch of water. And it is entirely due to the United States that no progress is being made in this matter.

One would like to hope that these ideas which have now been put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev will be heard by those to whom they are addressed. Furthermore, one can say even now that these ideas have been heard not only in Washington, not only in the American capital. These ideas are now being very animatedly discussed and commented on in the capitals of all states, and of course, here. They see in these ideas not just a new demonstration of the consistency of our party's and state's peace-loving course; they see in these ideas also the inflexible determination of the Soviet Union really to reach agreement, really to come to an understanding and secure a turn for the better in the development of international relations. The present disturbed international situation is complex, stormy and alarming, and ideas like these could of course be a most important element which could turn the course of events onto a different path. But, of course, this still requires time and responsive constructive steps on the part of our partners. And if here, in respect of military detente, it proves possible to find a good solution then of course one can expect a very great deal also from political detente, because the cause of political detente will then be put on a firm footing. And if there is political detente, then we can expect that the agenda will include the settling of crisis conflict situations, of which now, unfortunately, there are still quite a number in various parts of the world, beginning in Southeast Asia and ending in Central America and the Caribbean.

The world today demands not words but deeds for the benefit of peace. And the proposals made from the exalted rostrum of the 17th Soviet Trade Union Congress by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev are just such deeds for the benefit of peace.

Ponomarev Analysis

LD181944 Moscow TASS in English 1930 GMT 18 Mar 82

[By TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The world has responded with great interest to the new Soviet initiatives on limiting nuclear arms in Europe that were formulated by Leonid Brezhnev in his speech at the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions. The Soviet proposals range from decreasing by two thirds the nuclear arsenals of East and West that are maintained in Europe and intended against European targets to ridding the continent completely from medium-range nuclear weapons and tactical weapons. The numerous responses of politicians and the media in different countries of the world point out the consistency of the Soviet Union in its striving to achieve real cutbacks in nuclear arms, primarily in Europe. Why is the European Continent the subject of these proposals? The question of nuclear weapons in Europe has global rather than regional significance because any nuclear conflict on its territory is bound to escalate into a global conflict. That is why the Soviet leadership, striving to preserve detente and to strengthen peace, is making one concrete proposal after another to pave the way to substantive talks and to lower the level of armed confrontation between East and West.

It should be recalled in this connection that way back in December 1979, after NATO had taken the so-called dual decision on the "nuclear rearmament" of the North Atlantic alliance, linking it to the beginning of talks on medium-range nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union proposed a moratorium on the deployment of new medium-range nuclear missile system in Europe by the NATO countries and the USSR, that is, a quantitative and qualitative freeze on the existing level of these weapons, including U.S. forward-based nuclear systems in the region.

It was proposed that the moratorium could become effective as soon as talks on the matter began and last till a permanent treaty on the limitation or, even better, reduction of these nuclear weapons in Europe was concluded. Washington turned down this constructive proposal.

The Soviet side took another step forward: It substantially extended its proposal of a moratorium by expressing its readiness to reduce unilaterally a certain part of its medium-range nuclear weapons in the European USSR. At the same time it was suggested that both sides reduce their medium-range nuclear weapons, including the U.S. forward-based systems and the corresponding nuclear weapons of Britain and France, by hundreds of units.

Finally, to expedite the achievement of an agreement at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, the Soviet Union proposed specific reductions, namely, a reduction of the present-day numbers of these weapons by two thirds or even more by 1990 so that each side should be left with not more than 300 units of such weapons. In principle, however, the Soviet leadership advocates that Europe should not have on its territory either medium-range or tactical nuclear weapons.

The NATO leaders have not displayed interest in these initiatives either but continue their attempts to impose on the Soviet Union unilateral disarmament to the detriment of its security.

This week the Soviet leadership has taken another step without precedent under the conditions of the present-day armed confrontation: The USSR has decided to impose unilaterally a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in its European part. Moreover, the Soviet Union intends even this year, unless another aggravation of the international situation occurs, to reduce on its own initiative a certain number of its medium-range missiles.

Any unbiased observer examining the new Soviet initiatives cannot help admitting that they are intended to facilitate the achievement of an agreement on a major reduction of nuclear weapons by both sides in Europe on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security.

Bogachev Views U.S. Reaction

LD181806 Moscow TASS in English 1734 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Washington's Confused Reaction" -- TASS headline; by TASS writer on military matters Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The first statements by high-placed representatives of the U.S. administration which rejected the Soviet Union's new peace initiatives even without making a serious analysis of them have evoked stormy protests and expressions of indignation by the world public and especially in the United States.

The American Republic Senator Charles Mathias stated that the United States administration has lost contact with the American people and the overwhelming majority of mankind which recognises the pressing need of lessening the danger of nuclear war. Joseph Kraft, a columnist of the Washington POST, described the Soviet initiatives as a golden opportunity to reach agreement with Moscow in the field of arms control.

Many Western commentators stress the inconsistency and the contradictory nature of the hasty assessments of the Soviet peace initiatives by representatives of the U.S. administration.

Since a White House spokesman tried to belittle the importance of the Soviet decision since, he said, this proposal is restricted to the European part of the Soviet Union, commentators recall that recently President Reagan had flatly rejected a proposal by 140 American congressmen to conclude a bilateral Soviet-American agreement on freezing the arsenals of nuclear weapons although it was not confined by any geographical limits.

Reagan's statement that the production of nuclear arms should not simply be frozen, that the already existing huge levels should be lowered can evoke only perplexion. For it was Washington that rejected the SALT II treaty providing for a substantial reduction of strategic arms. It is the present U.S. administration that under various pretexts and referring to the need of "finalising the position" of the United States is delaying the resumption of Soviet-American talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms.

It is difficult not to agree with Senator Edward Kennedy who stated that the present administration is not adhering to any guidelines whatsoever in the field of arms control and that it has a policy of building up armaments and no policy of peace.

It should be noted that on encountering the sharp opposition of the world public opinion, Washington was forced to moderate its tone and make its assessments of the new Soviet initiatives less categorical.

The White House spokesman David Gergen told newsmen that the American administration was studying all aspects of the Soviet proposals. The State Department spokesman Dean Fischer noted that the administration's initial reaction did not mean that the United States "totally rejected" the Soviet proposals concerning the moratorium.

But the maneouvring with words by Washington's representatives does not mean yet that the United States administration is prepared for a constructive approach to problems of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments. There is reason to believe that Washington is interested first of all in that part of the two-track NATO decision that provides for the deployment of new American missiles in the European Continent.

Losev Commentary on Reaction

LD181334 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] The new Soviet peace initiative advanced by Leonid Brezhnev in his speech at the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions has been received by world public opinion with great interest and approval. This is quite natural, for the initiative is aimed at curbing the arms race, stopping a further slide towards nuclear warfare, curbing the activities of the cold war mongers and of today's dangerous brinksmanship. This is how our news analyst Sergey Losev begins the commentary which he has written:

Leonid Brezhnev's proposals have been highly appraised by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. His official representative has said that Leonid Brezhnev's proposal regarding a moratorium constitutes an important contribution towards progress in resolving serious problems linked with the deployment of medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe. Special interest is being shown abroad in the decision of the Soviet leadership to unilaterally introduce a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range armaments on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union. The Soviet armaments already sited here will be frozen both quantitatively and qualitatively while the replacement of old missiles known as the SS-4 and SS-5 by more modern ones, the SS-20's, will be stopped.

This moratorium would be effective either up to the achievement of agreement with the United States on a reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons intended for Europe on the basis of parity and similar security, or up to the time when the U.S. leaders, ignoring the security of the nation, nevertheless will go over to the practical preparations to site Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe.

Moreover, as Leonid Brezhnev has declared, the Soviet Union intends this very year, if there is no new aggravation of the international situation, to reduce unilaterally the number of its medium-range missiles.

Instead of replying to these constructive steps in a spirit of goodwill, the American administration has rejected them out of hand without any serious attempt to study them. President Ronald Reagan's speech yesterday and the statement made by the spokesman of the State Department show that the American administration does not have even the slightest reasonable approach towards the Soviet initiative. Commenting on the new Soviet peace proposals, the well-known commentator James Reston has said in today's New York TIMES that this question is so serious and complicated that its essence should be explained and shouldn't be simply rejected outright with passing remarks, especially when we take into account the growth within the United States itself of the opposition towards Reagan's militaristic policy, the commentator stresses.

The crux of the problem, however, lies not in the absurd explanation of the American stand, but in the very negative approach of the American administration toward the question of curbing the arms race. The President, in rejecting the Soviet proposals, demagogically declared that the United States and the Soviet Union shouldn't simply freeze the manufacture of nuclear weapons but should cut down on the enormous levels which already exist. The President pretends to forget that it was precisely the U.S. administration which blocked the SALT II treaty that envisaged a substantial reduction of strategic weapons and which today is obstructing in all ways a resumption of the Soviet-American SALT talks. Mr Reagan has expressed regret that the Soviet proposal on a moratorium has been restricted to Europe alone. And yet only a few days ago he rejected the proposal advanced by 139 members of the American Congress to freeze all nuclear arsenals irrespective of geographic location.

The President's vulnerable stand is based on the assertion that the Soviet Union has allegedly violated the military-strategic balance. This assertion, however, is founded on a falsification. The three previous American administrations and the chiefs of staff committee of the United States, when agreement was reached on SALT I and SALT II, clearly admitted the existence of a military-strategic balance between the Soviet Union and the United States. And the proposal advanced by the 139 members of the U.S. Congress to freeze the nuclear arms arsenals at their present level likewise proceeds from this existing military-strategic balance.

Senator Edward Kennedy, speaking on behalf of the 139 members of Congress, has said that they believe that there exists today the necessary balance of forces between the Soviet Union and the United States. Senator Kennedy, speaking yesterday at a conference of representatives of American business circles in Washington, said that the announcement by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow of the introduction in the Soviet Union of a unilateral moratorium on the siting of medium-range nuclear weapons should be used by the United States as a possibility for reaching progress along the path towards establishing of an even greater control over armaments. The United States, he stressed, should not simply brush aside the Soviet proposal, but should try to move even farther away from the brink of nuclear warfare. The present administration, the senator said, conducts a policy of building up armaments, but it has no peace policy. This United States policy may lead to an international catastrophe.

Dmitriyev on U.S. Rejection

LD191148 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Observer Igor Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] In his address to the 17th Trade Union Congress in Moscow Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev has put forward a package of proposals aimed at halting the arms race. One of them is a unilateral Soviet moratorium, or freeze, on the deployment of medium-range nuclear arms. We now bring you a comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev:

U.S. officials, he writes, including President Reagan, lost no time in rejecting the Soviet proposals. They argued that since the United States has no medium-range missiles comparable to the Soviet SS-20 there is no parity in nuclear weapons in Europe. Therefore, according to the U.S. administration, the installation of 572 American nuclear missiles in five West European countries scheduled for 1983 is only fair.

Now this argument is false on at least two counts. First of all, there can be no such thing as Soviet-American parity in Europe the way it is understood in Washington. Soviet medium-range missiles cannot reach American territory, while the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles can reach Soviet territory. In other words, the American missiles are strategic as far as Soviet security goes. And as President Brezhnev has said, if they are installed a new strategic situation would arise in the world. And secondly the American position is an arbitrary interpretation of what an overall parity in Europe is, because the Reagan administration singles out only land-based missiles and conveniently skips mentioning other types of medium-range nuclear weapons. They include some 720 American forward-based arms, aircraft and nuclear submarines and also French and British arsenals. It is not a matter of Soviet-American parity in Europe, but a matter of balance between the NATO alliance, which included two nuclear powers, the United States and Britain plus France, and the Warsaw Treaty where the Soviet Union alone is a nuclear power.

Here is just one fact to show how fair and objective Washington is: The administration says in all seriousness that Nicaragua and El Salvador pose a threat to American security. At the same time Washington dismisses France and Britain with their nuclear submarines, missiles and strategic bombers as a threat to Soviet security. It is not even a bad joke. Washington's arguments are meant to disguise its drive for superiority by turning Western Europe into an American strategic appendix.

The speed with which U.S. officials have rejected (?the) new Soviet peace initiatives is also attributed to their fear of the antiwar movement in Western Europe and in the United States. They cannot disregard these mass movements and their demands for a freeze to the nuclear arms race. And this is precisely what the Soviet leader has offered. Moreover, Leonid Brezhnev has offered a unilateral freeze as a goodwill gesture.

But it would be a mistake to think that if U.S. officials have once again rejected the Soviet initiatives they were not applauded in the West. A spokesman for the Dutch nuclear disarmament movement has said peace champions there welcome every proposal aimed at freezing the deployment and development of nuclear weapon systems, including Mr Brezhnev's moratorium. And Senator Edward Kennedy has noted that the Reagan administration's approach to arms control is ineffective. The administration, he said, has a weapons policy, not a peace policy.

Washington fears its own people who call for a freeze to the nuclear arms madness. Washington fears the principle of equality and like security because it stands in the way of its arms drive. That is why the U.S. administration distorts the European situation and essence of the Soviet peace initiative.

NOVOYE VREMYA VIEWS NEW MBFR INITIATIVE

PM181103 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 10, 5 Mar 82 pp 8-9

[G. Yevgenyev, I. Melnikov article: "An important initiative in the Hofburg Palace"]

[Text] On 18 February Vienna's Hofburg Palace, which has seen a great deal in its time, was the venue for an important event. The draft "agreement on a first-stage mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments and concomitant measures in Central Europe" was submitted at the East-West talks which have been under way there for 8 and 1/2 years.

S. Przygodski, head of the Polish delegation, who read out the draft on behalf of the GDR, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia -- direct participants in the talks -- stressed: The draft reflects the Warsaw Pact countries' desire to make the Vienna dialogue really businesslike.

The peace program for the eighties adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress organically incorporates a reduction in military confrontation in the center of the continent, where the biggest armed groupings are concentrated and where mountains of weapons, including nuclear weapons, are stockpiled. Seeking to eliminate the threat of war and preserve and deepen the detente process, the Soviet Union consistently sets a course of resolving disputes and emerging from conflict situations by means of patient, constructive talks.

This is the aim of the draft agreement. Its coauthors proceed on the basis that the tangled knot of problems cannot be cut through at a stroke, and that the efforts of the diplomats and military experts from 19 states who are working in Vienna must be directed toward "disentangling" not "linkage."

Is the time ripe for the compilation of such a draft? Certainly. The participants in the talks have virtually all they need for the successful completion of work on the text of a first-stage agreement. The principles for the elaboration of a future agreement have been agreed -- and above all, that of not jeopardizing either side's security. The group of directly participating states has been defined, and they will have to reduce their troops and armaments in a strictly agreed region -- on the territory of the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and also the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia. None of the delegates present in the Hofburg Palace denies that positions have drawn closer in the course of the talks, though slowly and with difficulty.

All this is on the credit side at the talks. These are weighty assets. And the credit for this belongs to the socialist countries, which have gone more than halfway to meet their partners, the Western states.

In the fall of 1973, literally a few days after the start of the Vienna dialogue, the USSR, the GDR, Poland and the CSSR submitted a draft agreement opening up real opportunities for reaching agreement in short space of time (the years 1975-1977 were proposed) on a substantial reduction (the figure of 17 percent was mentioned) in armed forces and armaments by 11 states in a region agreed at preliminary consultations. As a result the dangerous confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in that region would have been appreciably reduced.

Had the West shown realism and a constructive approach at that time it would have been possible even then to take the first, but very important, step along the path of reducing military arsenals in the center of the continent, lessen the threat of war and strengthen confidence. The personnel of ground and air forces and all types of armaments and combat hardware, including nuclear facilities, would have been reduced on both sides. The numerical strength of the armed forces would have been reduced by 300,000 as long ago as 1977.

In advocating the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries do not seek -- either now or in future -- any unilateral advantages for themselves. They have a sincere interest in lessening military confrontation. The same desire permeates all the supplementary proposals and initiatives -- and there are about 20 of them -- in which the East has taken account of many Western demands.

What is the nature of the draft agreement submitted 18 February? It clearly formulates the final goal of the dialogue, on which, incidentally, the Western participants also agree: To reduce, in two stages, the total numerical strength of armed forces personnel on each side (of each alliance) to equal collective levels of 900,000 men each, of which 700,000 will be ground forces and 200,000 air force personnel.

At the initial stage there would be reductions and limitations in Soviet and U.S. ground forces and armaments, which it is proposed to withdraw from the region of their present deployment to behind the corresponding national borders. The USSR would reduce its troops in Central Europe by 20,000 men, the United States by 13,000 men. The specific composition of the ground forces and armaments to be withdrawn would be enshrined in a special protocol attached to the agreement.

At the same time the parties to the agreement, on both sides, including the USSR and the United States, must under the draft agreement "freeze" the numbers of their armed forces in central Europe on a collective basis. This provision applies throughout the agreement's period of operation.

In order to ensure that the stages are linked and that the whole reduction process is integral, the participants in the talks must reduce their ground forces at the second stage on an approximately proportionate basis, and their armaments on the basis of terms to be elaborated in the course of second-rate talks. The same aim is pursued by the proposal that after the completion of the two stages no party to the agreement should have armed forces in the region concerned amounting to more than half of the equal collective levels of 900,000 men set for each alliance.

The draft agreement provides for measures to ensure the fulfillment of commitments by all parties. These include reciprocal information on the commencement and completion of practical steps to reduce troop armaments; the creation of temporary monitoring points for the withdrawal of troops and armaments; the use of national technical monitoring facilities, and the holding of corresponding consultations. All these measures would apply on the territories of states within the region stipulated.

The first-stage agreement is intended to last 3 years. That is long enough -- with the political will on the part of the NATO countries, of course -- to reach agreement on reducing troops and armaments at the second stage.

Another important feature of the draft is its balanced nature and its consideration of the security interests both of those directly participating in the talks and of states taking part with special status. On the basis of the wishes of the latter group, the future agreement makes provision for the troops withdrawn by the USSR and the United States to be deployed within national borders in new regions in such a way as to avoid being detrimental to the security of these flank countries, as they are often called.

The draft does not require the NATO countries to take on commitments of a kind which the Warsaw Pact states would not themselves be prepared to fulfill.

The step taken by the socialist states is a logical continuation of the proposal they put forward last December on moving on, from the 26th round, to practical work by all delegations on the text of a first-stage agreement.

This initiative was greeted with interest both by the world public and by the participants in the Hofburg Palace dialogue themselves.

But this has happened more than once in the past. After seeming to give due credit for its partners's initiative, the West has then returned, surreptitiously, to its customary procrastinations.

The next few months will show whether it intends to continue implementing the obstructionist tactics which result in the continuing buildup in military preparations, or to accept the Warsaw Pact states' proposal. Much also depends on Washington. Alas, questions of limiting troops and armaments are very low on the list of the Reagan administration's foreign policy priorities. At the same time this U.S. attitude toward these questions cannot act as justification for inaction on the part of West European countries.

KORNILOV DERIDES CHEMICAL WEAPONS 'EVIDENCE'

LD182026 Moscow TASS in English 1902 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Shifting the Blame" -- TASS headline: By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The wider the protests of the international public against the United States' militarist plans to uncontrollably build-up its weapons, including chemical ones, the more active Washington becomes in its attempts to conceal its aggressive schemes and activities. This is demonstrated anew by the hue and cry raised in Washington over a "secret" CIA report supposedly containing "new evidence" of the Soviet Union's use of chemical weapons either in Afghanistan or in the Southeast Asian jungle. According to the New York TIMES, the White House intends on Monday, March 22, to make this "report" public, or in other words, it plans to put on again the old, worn out propaganda disk with threadbare anti-Soviet tunes...

The tales about "yellow rains" which supposedly fell in Asia and about "mycotoxins" of the Soviet make found there that are being fed (for the umpteenth time) to the U.S. public are nothing but filthy concoctions which can never cast aspersions on the honest and consistent line of the Soviet Union which, unlike the United States, was one of the first to join the 1925 Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use of chemical weapons. The Soviet Union proposed and continues to propose that these criminal means of warfare be altogether outlawed and that all their stockpiles be annihilated, and it has never used anywhere deadly chemical agents.

As for the United States, the world has not forgotten how tens of thousands of tons of chemical agents were poured on Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea during the years of the U.S. aggression in Indochina. The origin of the poisonous chemicals that are used against the peaceful population of Afghanistan by bandit gangs is also well known: These chemicals have been manufactured in the United States. Moreover, as follows from the multibillion programme for the U.S. "chemical rearmament" recently announced by the White House, the American Government and the Pentagon are no longer content with the available huge stockpiles of chemical agents. It is now planned to equip the U.S. Armed Forces with several million warheads containing the new even deadlier nerve filling (so-called binary charges).

The line of the U.S. ruling circles pursuing a course for the uncontrollable arms build-up and planning a large-scale "chemical" slaughter, in particular, in the densely populated parts of Europe, naturally worries the people, and Washington will never succeed in dampening the mass-scale public protests whatever diversionary manoeuvres it resorts to. As for all sorts of CIA investigations, around which Washington, according to the New York TIMES, plans to stage another propaganda farce, it can only be said on this score that a lie remains a lie however long you repeat it.

NATO PROPAGANDA ATTACKS SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVE

LD190004 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Mar 82

[From the "International Diary" program with Yevgeniy Kachanov and Gennadiy Ariyevich]

[Text] It is worth noting that the NATO countries are unleashing an obviously coordinated campaign aimed at belittling the importance of the new peace initiative of the Soviet Union.

A dispatch from Brussels reports a statement by Luns, general secretary of the North Atlantic bloc, which he made at an extraordinary meeting of the permanent representatives of the NATO Council. The contents of that statement were communicated to the press by Luns' official spokesman. As his words showed, the NATO general secretary is of the opinion that a moratorium in the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in the European part of the USSR, proposed by L.I. Brezhnev, does not correspond with the NATO's interests. Luns is trying to create the impression that, in doing so, the Soviet Union expects to maintain superiority, which in fact, as one knows, does not exist. But there is constant talk about this so-called superiority in NATO circles in order to justify their own plans for the deployment of medium-range nuclear forces in Europe, and Luns, in essence, admitted that the main aim of NATO remains the implementation of plans for deploying nearly 600 new American nuclear missiles in West Europe. Therein lies the heart of the problem. NATO does not want to renounce its course toward spiralling the arms race. This is why they reject the peaceable proposals of the Soviet Union.

The tune for that NATO campaign has been provided by the United States. As one knows, President Reagan said that the new proposals of the Soviet Union were not good enough. But, it is highly significant that the Americans cannot bring themselves to speak of the whole complex of initiatives formulated by L.I. Brezhnev at the 17th AUCCTU congress. As well as the very important proposal about the moratorium, the Soviet Union has also expressed its intention -- if there is no new aggravation of the international situation -- to reduce at its own initiative a certain number of its medium-range missiles.

It is worth dwelling on this proposal. I have here a dispatch from London reporting a leading article in the GUARDIAN. It alleges that the Soviet Union has put forward the proposal about the moratorium because it has already carried out its program of deployment of new SS-20 medium-range missiles. By the way, one can find that thesis also in papers of other countries, and this testifies to the fact that it is an element of a campaign coordinated in NATO circles.

If one wants to speak seriously of the essence of that malevolent invention, then one must recall in the first place that the Soviet Union by no means regards the moratorium as an aim in itself, but as a means, or rather one of the means, toward a cardinal reduction of medium-range nuclear arms in Europe. The new initiative compliments and develops proposals put forward earlier, in particular the proposal on reducing the number of medium-range means of delivery of nuclear weapons -- reaching at present approximately 1,000 units on each side -- to 900 units on each side by the end of 1990, with an intermediate level of 600 by the end of 1985.

When compared with concrete facts the attempts of NATO propaganda to throw a shadow on the peaceable proposals of the Soviet Union prove absolutely groundless, but the fact that such attempts are being undertaken, that the NATO countries strive to distort the meaning of the peaceable initiatives of the Soviet Union, leads one to (?think) that banking on intensifying military preparations remains the basis of the course of the North Atlantic bloc.

SOVIET DELEGATE REJECTS U.S. LAW OF SEA DEMANDS

LD181402 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] New York, 18 Mar, TASS -- The socialist states have supported the position of the developing countries who opposed United States attempts at wrecking the adoption of the international convention on the law of the sea.

At the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference, taking place here, the United States asked for a radical revision of the draft convention, which had been worked out in some eight years and which Washington had endorsed at one time. The United States is pressing for free access to mineral resources of the sea bottom in international regions to its monopolies. The "Group of 77", representing over 120 developing countries, emphatically rejected United States demands. Its representatives said that the American amendments were unacceptable and could not serve as a topic for discussion.

Speaking on behalf of the group of East European socialist states, Semen Kozyrev, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, expressed support for the decision of the developing countries to reject the American demands.

An analysis of the United States proposals clearly shows, he said, that they are aimed at infringing the interests of other countries, at gaining unilateral advantages for the United States and a narrow group of its allies. Thus, the American proposals on the rules of adopting decisions in the international leading body for resources of the sea bottom give full control to the United States and some of its allies over the solution of major questions. Meanwhile, all other countries are utterly deprived of exerting any influence in this field.

Only one conclusion can be drawn, the head of the Soviet delegation said: The American "green book" of amendments is aimed against reaching understandings on all questions of the sea bottom regimen and does not contain elements of compromise.

Its purpose is obvious: To deadlock the conference and, possibly, to wreck it, paving the way to unilateral actions in the international region of the sea bottom. That is why it cannot be a topic of talks. We fully subscribe to the opinion of the "Group of 77". We also agree with the opinion of the "Group of 77" that the conference should concentrate attention on outstanding questions and adopt a convention on the basis of the existing draft by April 30th. If necessary this should be done through voting, even if the United States and some other countries are not ready for this.

U.S. MILITARY SPENDING LEADING TO DISASTER

LD181530 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Road to Disaster" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- "Lies posed for the truth," the Soviet EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA writes today about the bourgeois propaganda claims that military spending stimulates the economy.

Neither in the years of peace nor in the years of war, the weekly says, the USA ever had such a gigantic military budget, which has been appropriated for the next fiscal year -- 263 billion dollars, which is 20 per cent up on the spendings of the preceding year.

"How can military spending," the newspaper inquires, "have a positive impact on the economy if hundreds of billions of dollars are invested in production which gives nothing to the non-war industries and the sphere of consumption, if a blow is dealt to the social programmes?"

As the article points out, one of the proofs used by the Pentagon to justify the arms race reduces to the allegation that military orders increase the number of jobs. In so doing it passes over in silence the fact that according to calculations of economists, the capital per worker ratio in the war industry is five times higher than in the non-war industries -- in other works, one new job in the war industry deprives five workers of their jobs in non-war industries.

Facts show, the newspaper goes on to say, that each time when the U.S. administration steps up the arms race it entails a growth of unemployment and inflation, a recession in the non-war branches of the economy. The arms race sends up the budget deficit. Over the past five years it grew to reach 95 billion dollars, which the national debt of the USA has topped a trillion dollars.

Recalling that in the next fiscal year President Reagan demanded that the social programmes be reduced by another 43 billion dollars and military spendings increased by 44 billion dollars, the EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA quotes the ABC company as saying that a sharp increase in military spending and a reduction of socio-economic programmes are nothing else but a preplanned road to disaster.

OFFICIALS ACCUSES CIA OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

Sukharev Statements

LD181620 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The Central Intelligence Agency of the United States is directly or indirectly involved in the assassinations of Lumumba, Allende, Cabral and Torrijos, and the attempts on the lives of Indira Gandhi, Fidel Castro, Kaunda and other statesmen. This was stated at a press conference in Moscow by First Deputy Minister of Justice of the USSR Aleksandr Sukharev.

For several decades already, he said, the world public is witnessing attempts on the lives of statesmen and public figures, and leaders of national-liberation movements. A special international organisation called Condor and consisting of the police services of the United States and reactionary regimes of a number of countries has even been set up in Latin America. This organisation was set up with the aim of the physical extermination of leaders of the national-liberation movements in Latin America.

The fascist coup in Chile was prepared and carried out by methods of terror, by way of rude interference in the internal affairs of other countries. U.S. officials took a direct part in the murder of Chile's former Minister of Foreign Affairs Orlando Letelier. A series of murders and attempts on the lives of the leaders of a number of African states was organised by Western special services.

Washington is an accomplice of Israel's terrorist actions against the Arab people of Palestine and bombings of the Lebanon's peaceful population. Mercenarism is a variety of international terrorism, Sukharev said. Under the patronage of the United States mercenaries are operating in Afghanistan and Angola, are undergoing training in America to carry out acts of subversion against Cuba and Nicaragua.

The generally recognised principles of international law are disregarded by those across the ocean. They ignore, in particular, the definition of aggression adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1974 that prohibits the training and sending of bands into other states to perpetrate acts of terrorism.

The United States does not recognise as lawful the struggle of peoples against colonialism and racism, the deputy minister stressed. More than that, there are some in the United States who label United Nations decisions on the right of peoples of self-determination as international terrorism.

Starting with 1972, a document on the cooperation of states in the struggle against international terrorism is being drafted in the United Nations. The drawing up of this document is being obstructed by the United States and Israel, Sukharev stressed, who are trying to identify terrorism with the national-liberation movement.

Charges by Other Officials

LD181726 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The United States is resorting on a large scale to the services of mercenaries, whom it is using to attain its criminal objectives. This was stated today by Vladimir Kudryavtsev, director of the Institute of State and Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences, at a press conference devoted to "U.S. Policy of Terrorism in Asia, Africa and Latin America" here today. He characterized the use of mercenaries as a form of international terrorism. Mercenaries, he said, get paid for killing women, children and the elderly. In Angola, for instance, bandits bought with the CIA's money burned whole villages.

Igor Karpets, vice-president of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, stressed in discussing the ultra right-wing and ultra left-wing terrorists that both those movements were equally dangerous. The only difference is that the United States uses ultra right-wing terrorists to physically annihilate the people it dislikes while the terrorist activities of the extreme leftists help it to discredit left-wing parties.

Chemical weapons are the weapons of terrorists because they are used to annihilate the civilian population on a mass scale, Igor Karpets said. The United States has used these weapons in Afghanistan by supplying with them the Afghan counterrevolutionaries who are terrorizing the population. The Salvadoran junta employs napalm and U.S. phosphorous bombs in pursuing its policy of genocide against its own people.

The terrorist activities of the United States make themselves felt particularly graphically in Latin America, Viktor Vloskiy, director of the Institute of Latin America of the USSR Academy of Sciences, stated. Washington has now gone over from verbal threats to Nicaragua to open intervention in the internal affairs of that country. Last year the United States set aside 19 million dollars for training subversive agents and infiltrating them into Nicaragua. At present 500 subversive agents are undergoing training on U.S. territory and another 1,000 in Honduras. Some of them have already been sent to Nicaragua.

In the mid-1970's an international terrorist center including the secret services of ten pro-American dictatorial regimes was set up under U.S. aegis in Latin America. They are carrying out joint operations against the democratic forces.

Last December, Viktor Volskiy pointed out, the White House lifted restrictions on U.S. arms supplies to dictatorial regimes and is overtly encouraging terrorism in Latin America.

Karen Khachaturov, member of the Presidium of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, stressed that the Salvadoran junta, using U.S. military and financial support, has institutionalized terror. The junta's barbarity is only comparable to the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis during the Second World War. Last year alone, he said, over 12,000 people died at the hands of the Salvadoran punitive troops.

U.S. CONDUCTS 'SECRET WARS' AGAINST THIRD WORLD

PM181551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 82 p 5

[Pavel Demchenko article under rubric "Our Commentaries": "Washington's Secret Wars"]

[Text] Two reports that have appeared recently in the American press shed additional light on the secret wars that Washington is waging against the developing countries' peoples. Moreover, the reports make it possible to gain a better understanding of who is responsible for the deterioration in the situation in various parts of the world and of the kind of language that imperialism uses with states that refuse to obey its will.

Here is one of the reports, published in the New York TIMES: "The United States is financing Iranian emigres united in paramilitary detachments close to the borders of Iran. Moreover, the United States is financing the activities of Iranian oppositionists actually inside Iran and outside it, and also an emigre radio station broadcasting antigovernment propaganda. Israel is secretly delivering American-produced weapons to Iran."

The second report is equally eloquent; we quote it from a CBS-TV commentator: Late last year President R. Reagan approved a plan for secret operations aimed at destabilizing the government in Nicaragua. The plan was formulated by the CIA and envisages, in particular, creating special detachments made up of people of Latin American origin, which it is proposed to use in anti-Nicaraguan actions. The strength of the formations would be 500 men. The CIA has earmarked $19 million for implementing the plan, the commentator added.

The information we have quoted has now percolated to the press in one form or another. It relates to regions that are almost 10,000 km apart. The continents are different as are the political conditions in the countries in question. But the methods used by imperialism are the same: subversive operations, blackmail, terror and forcible pressure.

The number of similar facts could be greatly extended. Last week, for instance, President Reagan embargoed American purchases of oil from Libya, which is a form of economic pressure on yet another country. Moreover, it is well known that Washington is also financing and arming opponents of the Libyan regime. It makes no secret of its intention of regaining its lost positions in Libya, Iran, Nicaragua and a number of other countries. As we can see, it is using dirty methods and interfering in other peoples' internal affairs. Small wonder that this is creating the objective conditions for the growth of anti-American feeling in the developing countries.

TANJUG REPORTS ON PRC ECONOMIC EXPERTS IN USSR

LD181340 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1308 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar (TANJUG) -- Three Chinese experts for economic questions, working in two Chinese institutes, have arrived in Moscow in order to study the Soviet economic practice and theory. Over the past several days they had talks with Soviet experts. They were also received by Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Committee Aleksander Bachurin. The Chinese economists will also visit the Ukraine.

There has been no similar mission from Beijing to the Soviet Union for many years. The visit was organized on the basis of reciprocity since last year a Soviet scientific worker stayed in Beijing as the guest of the Soviet ambassador. In a similar arrangement, as guests of the Chinese ambassador in Moscow, the three Chinese economists are staying in the Soviet Union.

A Chinese source has explained that the aim of the visit is the acquainting with the functioning of the economic system of the Soviet Union. The same source has stated that China, implementing its modernization program, is studying the practice and the experience of many countries and that this is also the motive of this visit, too.

CHINESE PEOPLE URGED TO REJECT ANTI-SOVIETISM

OW141930 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Volskiy commentary: "Anti-Sovietism, Arms Race and Genuine Interests of China"]

[Text] Since the Great October Socialist Revolution, the most reactionary imperialist forces have always armed themselves with anti-Sovietism. Even now, the U.S. administration authorities are extensively using anti-Sovietism to aggravate international tensions, advocate an arms race and prepare for a new war. All this demonstrates the imperialists' class hatred of socialism and the antipeople nature of imperialism. But among those who encourage such policies are also the Chinese leaders. And in intensifying the anti-Soviet hysteria, they are ahead of many capitalist Western governments. They speak in defense of the imperialists and, in fact, are urging them to step up the arms race. Soviet journalist and international affairs specialist Volskiy has analyzed this fact. We now invite you to listen to his commentary.

The reason the Chinese leaders are pursuing such a policy is very clear. The Beijing leading clique is doing its utmost to ingratiate itself with the most reactionary U.S. clique, hoping to obtain modern weapons and war industry supplies as a reward for its anti-Sovietism. However, such a policy is not only unprincipled, immoral and despicable, but also dangerous, first of all to China.

The Beijing leaders' collusion with imperialism will lead China into the danger of being enslaved and turned into a tool to carry out others' adventurous schemes. The Chinese leaders, on an increasingly broad scale, are joining the arms race advocated by imperialism, thus more seriously wrecking the country's already very weak economy and causing the Chinese people's low standard of living to become even lower and lower. To win the imperialist bloc's favor, the Beijing leaders are creating and expanding sources of tension along the Chinese border from Indochina to Afghanistan. The Beijing leading clique is openly pursuing a hostile policy toward not only the Soviet Union, but other neighboring countries.

This of course is not in keeping with the real interests of the Chinese people because they urgently need peace and good-neighborly relations with other countries. One must know that to develop the country's economy and culture and to improve the people's living standard there must be peace. And, as we all know, being hostile toward one another can only bring destruction.

The Beijing leading clique's line serves only imperialism, and imperialism's concern is to undermine the Asian situation. The imperialists want to take advantage of the tense situation to strengthen their military presence on this continent and intensify their expansion against the people of all continental countries.

The growing nuclear threat is inseparable from the imperialists' anti-Sovietism with the Chinese leaders' support. U.S. imperialists do not conceal their belief that a nuclear war is entirely possible. It must be understood that a nuclear war by its very nature cannot possibly be limited by any geographic restrictions. No matter where a nuclear war breaks out, the people in all countries will inevitably suffer from its destructive effects.

The Beijing leaders' anti-Sovietism not only has caused the danger we have mentioned, but is increasing the danger, which is very serious. It is important to note that the Beijing leading clique's anti-Sovietism is now increasingly isolating China from the progressive forces which, in the final analysis, are the decisive factor in the course of world development. It is indisputable that the Chinese leaders' anti-Sovietism is incompatible with the ideal of the Chinese revolution.

Another bad consequence for the Chinese people is also closely related to anti-Sovietism. That is, the Beijing leading clique's anti-Soviet policy is weakening China's ability to resist imperialist economic, political and military pressures. Imperialism has never given up its old intention to establish neo-colonial rule over China and use China's natural wealth and the labor of the Chinese people to serve its own interests. Now, when the United States and the other industrially developed capitalist countries are trying to use the economically weaker countries to extricate themselves from their deep crisis, the desire has become stronger.

Therefore, however you look at it, the Beijing leading clique's anti-Sovietism will lead to harmful consequences for the Chinese people. Another possibility is unfolding before the Chinese people, however -- that is, to cast away anti-Sovietism and take the road toward restoring normal relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries -- countries that have always defended world peace and are always prepared to show good will toward the Chinese people.

COMINTERN'S IMPACT ON CCP DEVELOPMENT RECALLED

OW170633 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Dear Chinese listeners, Chinese propaganda has tried its utmost to distort the history of Soviet-Chinese relations. It has either completely ignored or rudely vilified the role played by the Soviet people and their country in the course of the Chinese revolution, as well as facts about Soviet contributions to the victory of the Chinese revolution and the founding of the PRC. In this connection, please listen to Soviet sinologist (Musin's) series of talks "Fragments in the History of Soviet-Chinese Relations." In these talks, he will introduce important milestones in the history of Soviet-Chinese relations and the Soviet Government's and the CPSU's internationalist policy toward China. Following is the fourth talk in the series entitled "The Role of the Comintern in the Founding and Development of the CCP."

The Comintern's guiding theory, political and organizational activities and resolutions on nationalities and colonies were amply manifested in the revolutionary activities in China. From the Second CCP Congress to 1943, the CCP conducted its activities as a Comintern member. In its relations with the CCP, the Comintern did not merely issue instructions. Its primary task was to render assistance to the Chinese communists. In fact, the Comintern was compelled to shoulder this heavy task and assume the responsibility of formulating the foundations for the theory, strategy and tactics of the Chinese revolution because at that time the CCP still lacked sufficient strength and experience to independently solve all complex and urgent problems facing the Chinese communists. At the same time, the Comintern did everything possible to allow the CCP to mature ideologically, politically and organizationally and to help it take deep root among the masses. In other words, the Comintern went all out to raise the CCP's capability to act independently and on its own initiative. The activities of the representatives of the communist, the trade union and the communist youth internationals in China and the CCP leaders' participation in the Comintern congress and its executive committee's plenary sessions in Moscow had immeasurable impact on the growth of the CCP.

As early as the 1920's, the Comintern and the CCP delegation together drafted a series of important resolutions on the principles concerning the East and the China question. Later, this became common practice. Owing to objective historical conditions, China became the first country to test, with the life and practice of revolutionary events, the fundamental principles of the Leninist theory on the national liberation movement. In the 1920's the Comintern approved and tested the theoretical generalization of the strategy and tactics of national liberation struggle for the first time in China. The generalization steadily entered the arsenal of the international communist movement and has been extensively applied by the developing countries in the process of their revolutions. The generalization of strategy and tactics includes interrelations between national and social aspects of revolution, mass movement and revolutionary armed forces, land and the peasants' problem, nationalism and democracy, and the national front and unity against imperialism.

Owing to the strategy and tactics formulated by the Comintern for the Chinese revolution, the historical task of turning the CCP into a large revolutionary political party and national political force was basically quickly accomplished. The tactic of forming a united front played a special role in accomplishing the task. The united front enabled the communist movement in China to swiftly become an independent, historical and political revolutionary force, attracting attention from both allies and enemies. The rich experience of the national revolution in the 1920's made it possible for the Comintern and the CCP to jointly formulate the long-range strategy and tactics for the Chinese people's liberation struggle in the turning point from the 1920's to the 1930's, including the founding of the CCP's own armed forces, establishment of the origins and grounding for the revolutionary regime in rural areas, and carrying out of the land reform policy during the civil war.

Under the leadership of Comintern representatives (Vilginskiy) and Borodin in China in the 1920's, the Chinese communists conducted political and organizational work among the Chinese working class and maintained close contacts with the workers. The advice, suggestions and useful assistance given by the Comintern and its representatives in China played an incalculable role in the formation and development of the workers movement in China in the 1920's. The Comintern's great contributions lay in its in-depth study on the problems of land and the peasants. For example, the Comintern's instruction to the Third CCP Congress and the resolutions adopted by the sixth and seventh plenary sessions of the Comintern Executive Committee all pointed the important direction for solving the problems of land and peasants in China. In revolutionary practice throughout the 1920's, the Comintern consistently tried its utmost to help the CCP gear to the needs of the peasants and pointed out the practical road for the communists to maintain close contacts with the masses of peasants, methods of organizing political education and arming the peasants, and the final and transitional slogans for the peasants movement.

By the late 1920's, the CCP had already accumulated rich experience in conducting practical work among the peasants and assembled large numbers of cadres capable of organizing them. In this way, formulating the strategy and tactics for the Chinese revolution in the 1920's constituted the Comintern's most important contribution. On the basis of Leninist ideology penetrating throughout the resolutions adopted by the second and fourth Comintern congresses, the Comintern Executive Committee, in a series of instructions on the China question and special resolutions, laid the firm theoretical foundation for the most important questions in the Chinese revolution and offered invaluable and useful suggestions. The Comintern's direct assistance helped foster internationalism among the ranks of the CCP and was conducive in preventing the expressions of nationalism and other nonproletarian viewpoints within the party.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON USTINOV VISIT TO INDIA

Delhi Airport Statement

PM181617 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 82 p 4

[Text] Delhi, 15 Mar TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of Defense, arrived in the Indian capital today on an official visit at the Indian Government's invitation.

At Palam airport he was greeted by Indian Defense Minister R. Venkataraman, the chiefs of staff of the three branches of the armed forces and other officials.

The welcoming party included Soviet Ambassador to India Yu. M. Vorontsov.

At the airport the USSR defense minister made the following statement:

Allow me to express cordial gratitude to the government of friendly India for the kind invitation to visit your country.

Exchanges of visits between Soviet and Indian statesmen are a long and fine tradition of Soviet-Indian relations. At the same time, they are an effective way of strengthening friendship and cooperation between our countries. The summit meetings between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Mrs Indira Gandhi make an invaluable contribution to this noble cause.

Soviet-Indian ties are developing in a stable and dynamic manner. They embrace practically all the most important spheres of cooperation between our countries. Also developing successfully is our cooperation in the defense shpere, which serves the national interests of India and the USSR and the interests of strengthening world peace and international security.

It gives me great satisfaction, on arriving in India, to convey cordial greetings to your capital's inhabitants, to the entire Indian people and their leaders and to wish them progress and prosperity on behalf of the leaders and people of the Soviet Union.

Today the USSR defense minister visited the place where outstanding Indian statesmen Mahatma Gandhi and Jaweharlal Nehru were cremated and he laid wreaths there. Wreaths were also laid on the grave of the unknown soldier.

Exercises Observed

LD181120 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Mar, TASS -- Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, who is currently on an official visit here at the invitation of the Government of India, has visited today an air force base in the town of Jodhpur (Rajasthan state). The command and rank-and-file personnel of the base warmly welcomed Marshal Ustinov. Friendly talks were held. The Soviet guest was shown training flights. Indian pilots demonstrated aerobatics, their high combat readiness. Marshal Ustinov thanked the command and the pilots for the hospitable welcome accorded to him and highly appraised the mastery of Indian Air Force pilots.

On the same day Marshal Ustinov made a trip to Babina (Madhya Pradesh state), where he attended exercises of armoured troops. In the course of the exercises Indian servicemen demonstrated good training standards, their perfect skills in controlling the latest military equipment, the readiness to repel military danger in the event of an enemy attack.

The Indian press broadly covers the visit to India by member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Defense minister, Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, stressing the tremendous role of all-round Soviet-Indian cooperation in strengthening India's defense capacity and consolidating peace on the south-Asian subcontinent.

Return to Delhi

LD181556 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Mar, TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of defence of the USSR, returned tonight to Delhi from a tour of the country. In the course of this trip the distinguished Soviet guest went to Bombay, Agra, Bangalore, Jodhpur, Babina, visited bases and military units and familiarised himself with the high level of combat readiness and training of the men of India's Armed Forces.

Talks With Counterpart

LD190920 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 19 Mar, TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of Defence of the USSR, now on an official visit here at the invitation of the Government of India, today continued his talks with Indian Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman. The sides exchanged views on the further development of traditional Soviet-Indian cooperation, including in the field of defense. It was stressed that the Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of August 9, 1971 served as a reliable and durable foundation of friendly cooperation between the two countries.

Radio Comment

LD181804 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Excerpts] The concrete, far-reaching peace initiatives President Leonid Brezhenv has put forward at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions has produced a wide response in India. As he formulated the main objectives in Soviet foreign policy the Soviet leader said this: As far as the Soviet Union in concerned, we firmly and steadily follow a line for lasting peace and peaceful, mutually beneficial cooperation with all states, regardless of social and political systems. As Indian periodicals and analysts single out these words, they point out that a fine example of such cooperation are the friendly relations between the world's first socialist state and nonaligned India.

The latest convincing example of this character of Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation is the current visit to India by the Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, a Political Bureau member of the Soviet Communist Party. His meaningful talks in the traditions of the regular Soviet-Indian political dialogue at the summit level show that the two countries keep concentrating efforts along two main interconnected directions, on the one hand, an extension of multisided mutually advantageous cooperation in order to step up social and economic progress of the two countries, and on the other, creation of favorable external conditions. In other words, the objective is to promote peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

As Marshal Ustinov stressed at a luncheon in Delhi, India and the USSR find a common language on all these issues. Our joint efforts for peace are of special importance now that the world situation has worsened noticeably, for which the United States is to blame. This fully applies to the areas in close proximity to India's territory. Indians are watching with alarm the large-scale deliveries of American weapons to neighboring Pakistan, a country known for its anti-Indian leanings. They are disturbed by the active military preparations of the United States in the Indian Ocean.

India's concern over the designs of imperialist quarters finds understanding in the Soviet Union. In these complicated conditions for India, stressed the Soviet defense minister, we sincerely try to help friendly, peace-minded India to become a strong and prosperous state. As Leonid Brezhnev put it, we want to see your country strong, capable of defending its independence and acting to promote peace in Asia, said Marshal Ustinov. This is why always at difficult times for India the Soviet Union has been side by side.

This is why the Soviet Union is helping India to develop key branches of the economy. Soviet aid to strengthen India's defense capability should be viewed precisely in this context.

TASS CITES KARMAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE REMARKS

LD181740 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Who Is It That Hampers Political Settlement Around Afghanistan -- TASS headline]

[Text] [Dateline not given] Speaking at a national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal stressed that the essence in the approach of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and revolutionary power to international problems is to act consistently in defence of peace in the region and world peace. From these positions, the party, government and people of Afghanistan approach the solution of those international problems which the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan faces now and continue the effort to seek peaceful ways of their solution, of holding talks between Afghanistan and its neighbours -- Pakistan and Iran. The national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan confirmed the consistency of the country's foreign policy course based on strict observance of the principles of the United Nations Charter and development of relations of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with all countries, regardless of their political and social systems, the principles of mutual respect of sovereignty and state independence, equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

It is well-known that in May 1980 and in August 1981 the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan advanced a broad and constructive programme of political settlement around Afghanistan. Its main purpose and content was complete ending and guaranteed non-resumption of armed and other forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. It is precisely such interference that was the root-cause of the aggravation of the situation in the region and exerted a negative effect on the development of the international situation as a whole. Suggesting a cardinal solution of the problem, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan showed a flexible approach as to the ways of achieving it. Preferring talks with each country separately, the Afghan side also proclaimed its readiness for tripartite talks. It was also not against participation in the talks of the United Nations secretary general or his representative. Simultaneously or parallel with bilateral of tripartite talks with its neighbours, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan declared for the possibility of holding multilateral consultations to work out international guarantees.

Naturally what is meant is only the discussion by states in question of external aspects of the Afghan problem, definitely with the participation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan while matters related to Afghanistan's internal affairs are decided and will be decided only by the Afghan people and nobody else.

The question about a limited Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan could be discussed and decided in the context of such a political settlement.

The constructive and flexible proposals of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan provide a good basis for political settlement. Given good will of those to whom these proposals were addressed there would be hope for their implementation, and, consequently, for the overcoming of the crisis situation in South West Asia which developed at the fault of the enemies of the Afghan people, and overcoming the crisis situation in South West Asia would, undoubtedly have a beneficial effect on the international situation as a whole.

It might be asked what was the answer of Islamabad and Washington to the intitatives of the government of sovereign Afghanistan? In words Pakistan is in favour of talks and advances various conditions of their holding which it soon "forgets" if the Afghan side accepts them and advances new conditions which mean an outright interference in internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and, hence, are inacceptable.

It was becoming clear that Pakistan is resorting to the tactic of procrastinations and delays. There is no doubt that this tactic is quite in keeping with the line that the U.S. administration conducts in this matter. Going by actual deeds and not by words, the United States not only hampers the holding of the talks but also torpedoes the very idea of political settlement.

And the United States' actions are such that it is precisely the United States which is training bandit formations on Pakistan's territory, it is the United States that supplies them with weapons, including chemical weapons. U.S. advisors are coordinating actions of all sorts of ringleaders of gangs waging the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Some of these ringleaders were even honoured to be invited to the White House.

Day in and day out Washington hammers away about "concern" for the destiny of the Afghan people. In reality this "concern" is manifested in violations of international law, encouragement of banditism and terrorism, interference in internal affairs of other countries, striving to aggravate tension not only around Afghanistan but also in the entire region of south Asia and the Persian Gulf.

It is no secret that the Pakistan authorities are trying to use tension around Afghan events so as to get more military supplies from the USA and other Western countries to modernize their army which is the prop of the present regime. The Pakistan authorities are not averse to performing the functions of a gendarme in the region the way it was done in the past by the shah's regime of Iran. The flow of funds from the West and certain international organizations under the guise of relief to "Afghan refugees" enables the ruling circles of Islamabad to patch up the budget which runs a huge deficit because of the country's militarization.

It should also be mentioned that whenever tension heightens within Pakistan, the myth about "external menace" allegedly represented by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is exploited with renewed force. This is how one lie leads to another and under the cover of all sorts of falsehoods large scale reprisals are staged against progressive and democratic organizations that demand the abrogation of martial law in Pakistan and the holding of elections. Using Pakistan as a bridgehead, the United States continues an aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, is heightening tension in the region.

The Afghan people has to rebuff bandit sallies of counterrevolutionaries, who, acting underhandedly, raid schools and mosques, caravans with loads of food and medicines, attack peasants tilling their field, terrorise peaceful population. Despite the difficulties the Afghan revolution continues advancing. Important steps along the road of radical social and economic transformations in the interests of the working people were made in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in less than four years since the revolution.

The process of revolutionary transformations in Afghanistan is irreversible and those who are now creating tension around Afghanistan will be compelled to understand this sooner or later. They can be ansered by Leonid Brezhnev's words: "....If there is real wish to do away with this problem, it is necessary to end outside intervention in Afghan affairs and take part effectively and in all seriousness in the efforts to achieve a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan."

"There is a good basis for this -- the proposals advanced by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan."

Facts show clearly who is it that hampers the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. It is, above all, the United States, Pakistan and some of their accomplices in the West and the East. It is they and they alone that bear the entire responsibility for the fact that political settlement has not been realized and that tension around Afghanistan persists and is aggravated on purpose also through unleashing vicious anti-Afghan campaign and the sending into Afghanistan's territory of gangs of saboteurs, terrorists and other hirelings of imperialism.

BALLOONS CARRY SUBVERSIVE MESSAGES INTO POLAND

LD191130 Moscow TASS in English 1104 GMT 19 Mar 82

["Crude Provocation" -- TASS headlines]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar, TASS -- The attempts made by certain "well-wishers" in Western Europe to support the Polish Solidarity are described by the Soviet weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] as deception of public opinion with professed "non-interference" in Polish affairs. Some time ago, the weekly writes in its issue today, a group of Frenchmen from the organization Air Balloons to Poland, launched from the Danish island of Bornholm helium-filled ballons to Polish shores. These balloons were meant to instill a "spirit of resistance" in extremists from the Solidarity trade union organization. Every balloon had a plastic container attached to it with propaganda materials in French and Polish inside and instructions saying: "Work slowly, unhurriedly...complain...ply the commissars with questions and doubts...do not think for them. Play the fool. Take as many sickness leaves as possible."

It is not hard to guess what the heads of the writers of these recommendations are filled with. It is much harder to understand how the authorities of France and Denmark could permit such a provocation, the NEW TIMES says.

BOOKLET OUTLINES PLAN TO OVERTHROW POLISH SYSTEM

LD182046 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Plot Against Poland" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The CIA together with secret services of other Western countries was preparing to overthrow the socialist system in Poland. This is shown by documents published in the booklet "Who Was pushing Poland Into an Abyss" that was brought out here.

It is said in the booklet that early in the seventies Western intelligence centres worked out a long-term plan of subversive operations against socialist Poland. Large funds were allocated for its implementation. Spies and saboteurs were sent into Poland in accordance with this plan. In May 1975 the CIA created in Geneva a civil rights committee that later became known as KSS-KOR [Social Self-Defense Committee] and turned into the main instrument of the implementation of the counterrevolutionary plans drawn up in the West.

Several counterrevolutionary groupings headed by KSS-KOR were operating in Poland by August 1980. Their subversive activity was coordinated by the CIA centre in Munich which was assisted intensively by the "Polish Government in Exile," the Polish emigration centre in Paris cooperating with the journal KULTURA and the Polish Zionist emigration that rallied around the journal ANEX in the USA and the newspaper NOWINY I KURIER in Israel. On instructions from the Western secret services, the leaders of KSS-KOR started the struggle under the slogans of "The improvement of socialism in Poland" and "Human rights protection," it is said in the booklet. At first they did not mention anywhere their plans of overthrowing the socialist system.

A tense situation in Poland facilitated operations of the Western intelligence services and created conditions for collecting information. The intensification of spying can be seen from the fact that Poland's security bodies arrested some 200 foreign agents by 1981.

The United States' open interference in the internal affairs of Poland, a sovereign state, was intensifying with the mounting of the wave of counterrevolution. The booklet mentions facts of such interference.

In July 1981, the United States House of Representatives adopted a resolution in which American legislators tried to impose on the Government of the Polish People's Republic their own terms of deciding internal Polish problems. The booklet cites the statement of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to a correspondent of the Washington POST that the Reagan administration will continue supporting the anti-socialist forces in Poland.

This is another evidence that the striving of KSS-KOR to destroy the socialist system of the Polish Republic received support and approval at the top level in the West.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA READERS COMMENT ON POLAND

PM181101 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Mar 82 p 3

[Unattributed roundup of readers' letters: "The Forces of Socialism Are Invincible; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Readers Angrily Condemn the Anti-Soviet, Anti-Polish Fuss Kicked Up in the West"]

[Text] The unworthy ballyhoo kicked up in the West around the so-called "Polish question" and the increasingly frequent outbursts of anti-Soviet and anticommunist hysteria in this connection there arouse just indignation among Soviet people. The letters being received by the editorial board are convincing evidence of this.

"Since the introduction of martial law in Poland," Lt Col (retired) F. Makarov, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, says in his letter, "reactionary circles in the imperialist states, primarily the United States, have mounted a hostile campaign against that socialist country. They are striving to aggravate the situation in Poland and are flagrantly interfering in its internal affairs. The U.S. administration's actions can only be described as a mockery of the norms of international law."

The introduction of martial law in Poland averted a catastrophe. This is now clear to every sane-mined person. "The antisocialist forces were openly preparing to provoke fratricidal war in Poland," writes Comrade N. Khomutov, who during the Great Patriotic War took part in liberating Poland from the fascist aggressors and was wounded doing so. It is obvious that the veteran cannot remain indifferent to the attempts to eliminate the socialist gains in a country for whose freedom he shed blood.

The fate of fraternal socialist Poland is not a matter of indifference to the Soviet people. Hundreds of thousands of Soviet people gave their lives in liberating Poland from fascist slavery and this cannot be erased from the memory. This is called to mind yet again by the letters of Comrades V. Sukhanov, a worker at a Sverdlovsk plant; A. Bychkov from Chelyabinkaya Oblast; V. Petrov from Bryanskaya Oblast; Lt Col (retired) A. Lazarchuk from Dubna; and others of our readers, who condemn the utterly false fairytale that martial law was allegedly introduced in Poland under pressure from the USSR and the other socialist countries.

"I read with indignation today of the U.S. administration's allegations that we are interfering in Polish affairs," writes Maj (retired) I. Ponikarov, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, who over 30 years ago liberated Polish land from the occupiers. "It is appropriate to ask," he says in his letter, "who helped to revive, restore and put postwar Poland back on its feet?" True to its alliance with fraternal Poland, the TASS statement noted, the USSR has given and will continue to give the Polish people help and support. This help is in striking contrast to the actions of the United States, which for the sake of its imperialist goals would like to doom the Polish people to deprivation and suffering.

"The situation in Poland is now gradually stabilizing," I. Vaynauskas, reserve warrant officer, writes, "but as we can see this does not please certain circles in the West.

"They are trying their utmost to inflame the situation around and within Poland. Western radio stations are daily making themselves hoarse filling the air waves with demagogic utterances. With all their might they are interfering in the internal affairs of People's Poland and slandering the Soviet Union. These radio stations are distorting the reality of the events in Poland and are trying to drive a wedge between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland." But all these intrigues by the slanderers are in vain, the letter writer asserts; the peoples can distinguish between truth and falsehood.

"The events in Poland," writes Maj (retired) A. Kapkov, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, "are its internal affair. And nobody has the right to interfere in Polish affairs, even less to lecture and intimidate the people of a sovereign state, as the Reagan administration is trying to do. Let imperialists of every stripe stop trying to restore capitalism in Poland. Nothing will come of it, gentlemen." The Polish People's Republic, as the joint Soviet-Polish communique stressed, will continue to be a firm link in the socialist community and a member of the Warsaw Pact and CEMA.

CSSR FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD181514 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, minister of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, arrived on a visit in the Soviet capital today. At Sheremetyevo Airport he was welcomed by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, other officials as well as the Czechoslovak Ambassador in the Soviet Union Cestimir Lovetinsky. Talks between Andrey Gromyko and Bohuslav Chnoupek began on the same day.

Talks With Gromyko

LD181858 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- Talks between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia Bohuslav Chnoupek began here today.

They discussed questions of bilateral Soviet-Czechoslovak relations which are deepening and strengthening in all fields on the sound basis of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance and the accords reached at the meetings between Leonid Brezhnev and Gustav Husak.

Andrey Gromyko and Bohuslav Chnoupek discussed topical international problems, especially those concerning Europe, in the light of the new constructive proposals set forth by Leonid Brezhnev in his speech at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions.

The Czechoslovak foreign minister stressed that the Soviet leadership's decision on the question of limiting nuclear arms in Europe was a far-reaching measure demonstrating the Soviet Union's unbending will for peace. The USSR's peace initiative is called upon to ensure the attainment of agreement on a major reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe on the basis of strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security and opens up new possibilities for curbing the nuclear arms race, lessening the risk of nuclear war and strengthening peace.

The talks which are passing in a warm comradely atmosphere will be continued.

Continuation of Talks

LD191134 Moscow TASS in English 1118 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar TASS -- Talks were continued today between Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, minister of foreign affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. At the close of the discussion of matters of bilateral Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation, deep satisfaction with the progress of this cooperation and mutual determination to continuously develop and enrich it were expressed. An exchange of views on some international matters of mutual interest was continued as well.

A joint communique was adopted. The communique is to be published in the press.

CPCZ'S JAKES DISCUSSES ECONOMIC COOPERATION

PM181533 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 82 p 4

[Article by Milos Jakes, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, under the rubric "Following the Party Congresses' Course": "Collaboration Augments Strength"]

[Text] Prague -- The most recent history of the peoples of Czechoslovakia and their struggle for class and national liberation and social justice are inextricably linked with the development of fraternal relations with the Soviet people and their Leninist CPSU. The CPCZ emerged under the direct influence of the ideas of Great October and its establishment was promoted by advice and aid from V.I. Lenin.

The CPCZ learned from the CPSU, on the basis of the CPSU's experience of class battles, how to defend the working people's rights. We relied on the aid and support of the Soviet people and the CPSU in the struggle against fascist enslavement and for the victory of our revolution. All-around cooperation with the USSR has helped us at all stages of building a new society.

The 16th CPCZ Congress received a great deal of help in elaborating decisions and determining its development strategy from the CPSU's experience generalized at its 26th congress. As always, the Soviet Communists' supreme forum became for us a source of inspiration, an acknowledgement of the fact that we can rely on our most loyal and reliable friend and in cooperation with this friend can cope with complex new tasks.

The might of the land of the soviets and fraternal alliance with it ensure for our republic stable development and prospects, augment its strength and expand its potential. Full confirmation is available of the correctness of the historical step taken by our peoples who resolved once and for all the question of the republic's orientation in the spirit of K. Gottwald's watchword: "With the Soviet Union for all time and never otherwise."

Building a developed socialist society whose specific program, in accordance with the line of the two previous congresses, was further developed at the 16th CPCZ Congress, is a lengthy stage. This period of hard and very complex struggle will require full mobilization of the people's talent, intelligence and creative forces. It is essential to vigorously overcome existing shortcomings. Above, we must improve the quality and effectiveness of all our work, improve the standard of the population's welfare, and secure conditions for the all-around development of the individual.

The CPCZ's central task is to transfer the economy to a path of intensive development, which requires activation of the country's entire production, scientific and technical potential. Cooperation and close national economic mutual ties between the CSSR and the Soviet Union are one of the stabilizing factors in the Czechoslovak economy and make it possible to resolve complex problems by relying primarily on the broad introduction of scientific and technical achievements and on production sharing and specialization.

There is no longer any possibility of building up raw material and energy resources and increasing the number of workers as plan targets are stepped up. The dynamic growth of production must be ensured by more effective utilization fo fixed capital and raw and semifinished materials and energy, and by reducing labor expenditure per unit of finished output. This can be achieved today only on the basis of scientific and technical progress and accelerated introduction of its achievements into practice.

The consistent line toward all-around utilization of scientific and technical successes is dictated not only by requirements connected with implementation of current problems and the turn toward intensification. Our party sees a strategic task here. Its solution is the precondition for creating the material and technical base of communism and asserting the communist method of production, and promotes the further social and cultural growth of the working class -- that is, it is a case of implementing the historical task of building a classless society.

Under the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, production forces acquire such dimensions and such a nature that their development depends increasingly not only on national but on international factors. Improvement of production forces increasingly demands joint solution of problems. That is why the socialist countries' cooperation within the CEMA framework and bilaterally is emerging as an objective necessity.

The CSSR is extraordinarily interested in expansion of all-around cooperation and intensification of production sharing. This fully accords with our economies' requirements and potential. A whole series of installations have been set up in Czechoslovakia with the Soviet Union's aid. Without close collaboration it would have been impossible to commission several technically complex production facilities. The USSR is helping to resolve vitally important matters connected with the scientific and technical revolution and production intensification and to acquire top-quality machinery and equipment and raw and semifinished materials and energy and is helping to mitigate the influence exerted on the country's economy by the unfavorable international economic situation and the crisis development in the capitalist world.

Cooperation with the Soviet Union creates broad opportunities for selling output. Czechoslovakia's processing industry, for instance, annually exports about 900,000 tons of machinery and equipment to the USSR. Trade turnover between our countries reached $29.1 billion in the period 1975 through 1980. In the overall volume of our foreign trade, the USSR accounts for over one-third. In the new 5-year plan foreign economic relations will expand still further. Under a long-term trade agreement the volume of reciprocal deliveries will reach R50 billion. It is clear that each new stage in the development of relations intensifies and strengthens the common features in our countries' policy and in their economy, culture and social life in general.

We consider it our paramount duty not only to ensure fulfillment of export deliveries to the USSR in terms of volume but systematically to improve the standard and consumer qualities of the articles we send and their reliability and servicing.

Production sharing and specialization have a considerable part to play in the light of broad cooperation. The long-term program signed in March 1980 for development of production specialization and cooperation between the CSSR and the USSR up to 1990 is an exceptionally important document politically and economically. It is the product of the need of both countries to solve key national economic tasks and, at the same time, it takes into account the CEMA states' long-term targeted cooperation programs.

Our party's view is that production and scientific and technical cooperation and specialization are the most effective way to improve the Czechoslovak economy's mutual ties, especially with the Soviet national economy, and are a condition of the implementation of our long-term development plans.

Therefore, the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, rating highly the results of the friendly 1981 Crimean meeting between Comrade Gustav Husak and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, stressed the CSSR's continuing interest in broadening mutual economic ties on the basis of coordination of 5-year plans and especially in systematically deepening production sharing and specialization in line with the adopted long-term program and also on the basis of exploiting other possibilities in the course of bilateral cooperation and within the framework of the CEMA countries' integrative acts.

Introduction of progressive forms of economic collaboration will obviously require, among other things, creation of joint economic associations, research organizations and large sector and intersectorial production and technical units operating in accordance with common programs. This means implementing complex structural changes, especially in machine building, where there are still untapped reserves in the sphere of cooperation and specialization. There are also some significant scientific research tasks to be tackled: We must work together to find the most effective ways of solving the main questions.

The substantial structural changes will demand of us the ability to efficiently keep track of the processes taking place in the world economy, above all in the socialist economy, and to ensure practical application of the general laws of building a new society to the specific conditions of both countries. Therefore, we see it as an essential prerequisite for deepening integrative ties to substantially improve coordination of long-term national economic plans as well as intermediate plans. In the future this means it will be necessary to intensify the role of central planning and management, recognizing that all-round -- primarily economic -- cooperation between our countries and among those of the socialist community as a whole is an increasingly effective factor in the world revolutionary process.

We are aware that in conditions of the present-day class struggle any departure from international obligations and from the socialist countries' joint policy, any opposition between national interests and international interests and manifestations of national narrowmindedness and egoism are weapons in the hands of reaction. Wherever favorable conditions arise, it strives to galvanize nationalism, especially in its most dangerous form -- anti-Sovietism. Our enemies have not abondoned their plans to weaken and liquidate socialism. These are not just words; they are facts confirmed by events in Poland.

The reality of the class struggle today is that no public event of fundamental significance is exclusive to a single country; it affects world development in general. Each victory for the revolutionary forces is a triumph for world progress, while reaction's intrigues serve imperialism's interests. In this connection, the job of socialist economic integration, its political purpose, is, as far as we are concerned, to increase the might of our countries and it is the firm guarantee of the advancement of each country and of the socialist community as a whole. We are convinced that we are thus contributing to the implementation of V.I. Lenin's great idea that socialist will create new, supreme forms of human coexistence in which the valid demands and progressive aspirations of the working masses of every nationality will be implemented for the first time on the basis of international unity.

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN KISZ VISIT -- At the invitation of the Komsomol Central Committee and the Committee of Youth Organizations a delegation of KISZ [Hungarian Communist Youth League] headed by Jeno Kovacs, secretary of the KISZ Central Committee, stayed in the USSR. The delegation was received by Boris Pastukhov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee. The members of the delegation were briefed about the way in which the Komsomol and the whole of Soviet youth were preparing for the forthcoming 10th Komsomol Congress. They also discussed certain issues of the international youth movement. [Text] [Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1730 GMT 16 Mar 82 LD]

COMMENT ON U.S. 6TH FLEET, LIBYAN OIL BOYCOTT

Lehman Press Conference

LD171740 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 17 Mar 82

["Dangerous Course" -- TASS headline; by TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar, TASS -- U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman told a press conference in Washington that manoevres of the U.S. Sixth Fleet would be held in the coming months in the Mediterranean in close proximity to the Libyan Jamahiriyah. He added that U.S. naval forces had for many years regularly held exercises in the area and would continue to do that.

The American secretary's remarks are fully in line with the global aggressive strategy of American imperialism which proclaims as zones of its "vital interests" areas thousands of kilometres away from the United States, and which seeks, through blatant pressure, to subordinate states pursuing independent foreign policies. This kind of pressure is being exerted on Libya. Apart from its intimidation attempts and sabre-rattling, the Reagan administration also resorts to economic pressure. Washington has recently announced that it had stopped importing Libyan oil which is the main source of its national income, and introduced restrictions on trade with Libya.

As for the provocative manoeuvres of the American military off Libyan coasts, these have already led to dangerous developments and sharply increased tension in this part of the Mediterranean.

This time too, the Pentagon is clearly leading things to higher tension and brinkmanship. When talking about the advocates of this course, Leonid Brezhnev said in his speech at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions: "They have arrogated the 'right' to command some countries, and judge and 'punish' others. Unembarrassed, they publicly announce, and try to carry out, plans for economic and political 'destabilisation' of governments and states that are not to their liking. With unexampled cynicism, they are trying to substitute 'sanctions' and blockades for normal communications and international trade, and endless threats of armed force, not short of threats to use nuclear weapons, for contacts and negotiations... What is there more of in this policy -- thoughtlessness and lack of experience in international affairs or irresponsibility and, to say it bluntly, an adventurist approach to problems crucial to the destiny of mankind."

Libyan Protest

LD171812 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] The official Libyan news agency, JANA, has released a statement strongly protesting the armed provocation the United States intends to carry out near the Libyan coast. U.S. Secretary of the Navy Lehman has announced that the 6th Fleet will hold maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra in the next 6 months. The provocative nature of these maneuvers is clear to all in the light of the intensifying anti-Libyan campaign being waged by the United States. A few days ago the United States announced an embargo on the importation of oil from this Arab country and on the exportation of industrial equipment to it. Prior to this, U.S. technicians had been withdrawn from Libya. Even the U.S. press says openly that this new flexing of muscles near the Libyan coast is preparation for armed aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. Such preparations are taking place not only at sea, but also on land. Suffice it to recall the Bright Star maneuvers held in Egypt and the Sudan close to the Libyan border.

All indications are that Washington does not exclude the use of Egyptian territory once again for action against Libya, despite the statement by President Mubarak to Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH to the effect that Egypt would not allow its territory or airspace to be used for aggression against Libya. Many observers now draw attention to the dispatch of 660 U.S. soldiers from the 82d Airborne to the Sinai within the framework of the so-called multinational force.

It is known that this division is the backbone of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force set up for armed interference in other countries' affairs and in particular in those whose regimes Washington does not approve of.

Libyan, Algerian Reaction

LD181336 Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Mar, TASS -- The Libyan mass media assess as a flagrant provocation the Pentagon decision on the holding of naval exercises of the Sixth United States Fleet off the shores of Libya within the next several months. Staging these exercises, Tripoli radio said in its commentary, the American administration challenges not only the Libyan Jamahiriyah but also the other countries of the region. The provocative actions of the American military can create a real threat to peace and security in the Middle East and are fraught with a broad international conflict.

Sharply protesting against the militaristic undertaking of the United States, Radio Tripoli expressed confidence that Libya will not remain alone in face of the American threat. All revolutionary and progressive forces of the world will side with Libya.

Algiers, 18 Mar, TASS -- The decision of the American administration to stage exercises of the Sixth United States Fleet in the Mediterranean close to the shores of the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the near future are part and parcel of a massive anti-Libyan campaign designed to exert pressure on the progressive regime and to destabilize the situation in that Arab country, says a commentary of the Algerian news agency APS.

The forthcoming exercises whose holding was announced but a few days after Washington's ban on the purchase of Libyan oil and on the export of sophisticated equipment to Libya, the commentary points out, are another act in the dangerous play with fire of the bellicose American administration.

'Open Threat' to Libya

LD191000 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] While toughening economic pressure on Libya, the Washington administration at the same time is preparing a new military provocation against that country. Large-scale exercises of the U.S. 6th Fleet have been announced. They will be held in the Mediterranean close to the shores of Libya. Radio Moscow correspondent in the countries of Northern Africa, Yevgeniy Lukyanov, describes what stands behind those actions:

The open threat to Libya follows the U.S. campaign of political economic and military pressure. You will remember the pirate attack by U.S. fighter planes at two Libyan planes, the recalling of the American technical personnel that worked in oil industry, the oil boycott and the stop to the import of Libyan oil. Washington resorts to such measures to destabilize Libya economically and politically, and its show of armed strength is meant to intimidate Libya and make it abandon its consistent anti-imperialist policy.

Being a member of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, Libya rejects the separate Camp David accord and plays a big role in the struggle against Western oil companies and their policy of plundering and dictating. The course following by Libyan leaders conflicts with the ambitions of the U.S. administration, and for that reason Libya is facing a growing campaign of economic blackmail and political pressure.

The Algerian newspaper EL MOU'JAHID says that the campaign is nothing but an open provocation against the Arab countries and petroleum-exporting nations. The aim of such a campaign is weakening Libya's positions on the world scene and isolating Libya in the Arab world. The Algerian newspaper says it is essential to offset the hostile U.S. plans with energetic support for Libya at various levels in order to expose the U.S. propaganda campaign against Libya.

Rachkov Commentary

LD181804 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Boris Rachkov commentary]

[Text] The decision by U.S. President Reagan to impose an embargo on the importation of Libyan oil to the United States should be considered as yet another link in the endless chain of imperialist provocations not only against the Libyan Jamahiriyah but also against all OPEC members. This action, of course, is anti-Libyan and is aimed at reducing Libyan oil income by the $7-8 billion it used to earn annually in the U.S. oil market before the start of Washington's active anti-Libyan provocations. The United States wants thus to subdue the Libyan Jamahiriyah for its refusal to submit to the U.S. policy of domination in international affairs and for its clear anti-imperialist policy.

At the same time the Washington action appears to strive to show the inability of oil-rich developing countries to dispose freely of their oil resources. Since those countries which came together in OPEC expelled the U.S. and British colonialists and monopolists in the early seventies and fixed a more just price for oil, imperialism has been dreaming of revenge. It strives once again to recover total or even partial control of the production of others' oil and to fix its price, which the neocolonialists want to see low, keeping in mind that the wager here is on OPEC's solidarity which has been weakened a little.

From this aspect, Libya is not the first victim of the West's imperialist intrigues. Since the second half of the seventies the imperialists openly or secretly have boycotted Iraqi oil for several months and years following the deterioration of relations between Baghdad and Washington. The United States used such a measure against Iranian oil following the collapse of the shah's regime. Nigerian oil was boycotted after Lagos protested against the financial and other intrigues of the U.S. and the British oil monopolies in Nigeria. Regrettably, the OPEC countries did not unite in any of these cases against the colonialists despite the loss that the oil producers suffered from this boycott. The oil revenues of these four countries declined to $120 billion a year, equal to a sudden loss by the one of the biggest capitalist countries, Britain, of 1/4 of its gross national income.

Colonialism would not have achieved this success in its boycott of certain countries had it not relied on an increase in oil imports from other OPEC members. Such countries are, however, very few. For instance, such increased oil imports came from Saudi Arabia, which cooperates traditionally with U.S. oil monopolies. This happens at a time when Saudi Arabia cannot invest its huge oil revenues, which in 1980 alone totaled over $85 billion.

Admissions by U.S. oil monopolies indicate that the Arab black gold is used not only as a substitute for other boycotted OPEC oil but also for building up the so-called strategic oil reserves in the United States. These reserves are being used now to scare oil producers and for speculation by the oil monopolies in the international market. This has resulted in a decline in the price of oil which is now harming not only the boycotted countries but also all OPEC countries.

A number of OPEC members for a long time have been calling for the postponement of their current differences in face of the clearly emerging danger of imperialism. The latest Washington provocation against the Libyan Jamahiriyah indicates clearly the importance of such calls. It seems that Saudi Arabia has been influenced by them and early in 1982 cut its oil production to (?70-80 million tons). This step, of course, was described enthusiastically by nationalist quarters in Arab countries and other OPEC members as actual proof of Riyadh's solidarity with other OPEC countries. The fact remains that no matter how cunning the colonialists are, in the end they will retreat in face of the unity of OPEC.

TASS NOTES ARRIVAL OF U.S. TROOPS IN SINAI

LD181454 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] New York, 18 Mar, TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Mostovets reports:

Units of American troops, part of the so-called "Multinational Force," started arriving at the Israeli-occupied part of the Sinai Peninsula. The so-called "Multinational Force" was formed on Washington's initiative under the pretext of "maintaining peace" in that region. As is reported by the AP news agency, about 700 American troops from the 82nd Air-Borne Division, part of the interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force," were moved to the airfield in Sharm ash-Shaykh from the U.S. air base in Fort Bragg (North Carolina). Thus, along with the American units, already stationed on the Sinai, the total number of paratroopers from the U.S. gendarme force is to reach 1,000 there.

Servicemen of that division are known to have been especially trained to perform police actions both in the United States and in any other part of the globe. It is exactly units of the 82nd Air-Borne Division which took part in the U.S. military intervention in the Dominican Republic, which had the aim to overthrow the legitimate government of that Latin American country.

The United States has long been nurturing plans of turning "the multinational force" in the Sinai Peninsula into a tool of its aggressive policy in the Middle East. Washington is after new military springboards in oil-rich areas of the Middle East. Earlier, the United States already got the right "to use" military bases and structures in Somalia, Egypt, Kenya and Oman. Modernization of the Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean is under way at an accelerated rate. The Diego Garcia base is one of the main strongpoints of the 200,000-man strong "Rapid Deployment Force" in carrying out their would-be militaristic actions in the area of the Persian Gulf and the Middle East. Barracks, depots for weapons and ammunition are being constructed on Diego Garcia. A run-way is being expanded to receive strategic "B-52" bombers. Seven American ships are invariably anchored off at the roadstead. They have aboard transport facilities, a stock of water, food and ammunition. Besides as is reported by the American press, the so-called enhanced combat readiness paratrooper group of 2,000 marines are conducting patrol service aboard U.S. war ships in the Indian Ocean.

TASS Comment

LD191030 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 19 Mar 82

["Pentagon: Eager To Have Its Troops in Sinai" -- TASS headline by TASS commentator Igor Berznikovskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar, TASS -- The United States has set about carrying out its hegemonistic designs in the Middle East. According to press reports, 700 American soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division, a part of the so-called "multi-national force," have already been transferred to the area of Sharm ash-Shaykh, in the Israeli-occupied part of the Sinai Peninsula. This brings the total of American air-borne troops on the Sinia Peninsula, together with those taken there earlier to a thousand, according to an ASSOCIATED PRESS report.

To create the impression that this is a "multi-national" contingent, Washington has enlisted the cooperation of its West European allies who have also contributed to this "Multi-lateral force." This military contingent is being formed by the USA allegedly for supervising the observance of the separate "peace treaty" between Israel and Egypt. Officially, this "multi-national force" is to begin discharging its "mission" after the pullout of Israeli occupation troops from Sinai, scheduled for April 25.

The plan for stationing an American military contingent on the Sinai Peninsula, an open challenge to the Arab peoples, is nothing new. This plan was hatched for a long time in the Pentagon's circles. To give this illegal military action a semblance of "legality," Washington resorted to a trick, alleging that the "multi-national force" is to replace the U.N. "blue helmets" who were stationed in Sinai before. Moreover, U.S. statesmen tried to accuse the United Nations of failing to help with the solution of the "Sinai problem" and that therefore the United States had to take upon itself the responsibility for "the preservation of peace" in the area.

But these propaganda tricks did not mislead anyone. The international community has qualified this plan as a dangerous policy of forming an American gendarme corps, which has nothing in common with the problem of a real peaceful settlement in this explosive area of the world.

Washington also failed in its attempts to secure the support of Arab countries for the idea of establishing a "multi-national force" in Sinai. Representatives of a number of Arab states stressed more than once that Washington's plan means in fact replacement of Israeli occupation forces with American troops.

It is absolutely clear that the purpose behind the Pentagon's plan for stationing a "multi-national force" in Sinai and the transfer of American troops there as the backbone of this "force" is not to assure the "disengagement" of Egyptian and Israeli troops but to establish in the Middle East a new American place d'armes from which the United States would be able to make strikes at independent Arab states who refuse to obey the Pentagon's diktat. The United States, relying on military force, seeks to establish its imperialist domination in this region, to lay its hands on the oil riches of the Middle Eastern countries and to suppress the national liberation movements in the Arab world.

Moscow on Troops

LD171836 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] United States' troops have begun arriving in the Sinai. These servicemen, our commentator Leonid Rassadin says, are the backbone of the so-called multinational force which is to replace the Israeli troops on the peninsula after their withdrawal scheduled for the end of next month. The strength of the multinational force is about 2 1/2 thousand men; 11 countries, including some in Western Europe, have agreed to take part. At first glance it may seem that the establishment of a multinational force in the Sinai serves the purpose of ensuring tranquility in the zone separating the Israeli and Egyptian troops. (?What's wrong), you may ask, in American and other military contingents performing certain policy functions in the area? In fact, however, the move would amount to replacing the Israeli occupation of that part of Egyptian territory with American occupation. Naturally, official Washington wants to conceal its true aims, which explains its idea of drawing other states into its plans, although for them this is a trap, and a very dangerous one at that.

What may happen if, say, Israel backed by the United States decides to launch another military action against Lebanon, which is a likely move since Israel has already concentrated big units of its troops along the Lebanese borders? Or just imagine that the United States decides to stage another provocation in the vicinity of Libya similar to the one it staged in the Sidra Gulf last August when its fighters shot down two Libyan planes. Such a probability cannot be ruled out in the light of the coming maneuvers of the United States Fleet 6th Fleet in the same region. It's hard to imagine that in the event of any conflict situations the multinational force in the Sinai will stay aside. In other words, the United States administration wants to make the West Europeans and other people accomplices in its adventures in the Middle East.

The military preparations of the United States should also be viewed as part of its policy of pressure with regard to the West European countries to make them agree to have American nuclear missiles on their territory.

Military threats and crude interference in the affairs of other nations are characteristic features of the policy of the present United States administration in the Middle East. And not only there -- this is equally true of its policy towards Central America and other regions of the globe. A threat to general peace is created thereby.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION RETURNS FROM YAR

PM171529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Return of Delegation"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.A. Smirnov, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the board of Tsentrosoyuz, returned to Moscow from the Yemen Arab Republic on 9 March. It was making an official visit to that country at the invitation of the Constitutent People's Assembly.

The delegation was met by V.P. Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, S.A. Bondarenko, deputy chief of the International Relations Section of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials as well as Salah 'Ali al-ashwal, the Yemen Arab Republic's ambassador to the USSR.

PDRY PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT AT 'END OF MARCH'

LD190002 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar, TASS -- The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Defense Council, Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will pay a working visit to the Soviet Union at the end of March.

PRAVDA CITES AN-NIDA' CRITICISM OF HABIB TRIP

PM181555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 82 p 5

[Own correspondent R. Moseyev dispatch: "Encouraging the Aggressor"]

[Text] Beirut, 14 Mar -- The latest trip to the Near East by P. Habib, the U.S. President's special representative, has finished; he visited Israel and a number of Arab states. Summing up his talks, political observers unanimously note that P. Habib's trip, like its forerunners, was made within the context of the aggressive Near East policy being pursued by Washington and had the task of preparing the ground for a resolution of the Lebanese crisis according to an American-Israeli scenario.

The Beirut newspaper AN-NIDA' writes of this. In particular, it notes that, as in the past the "plan" proposed by P. Habib has nothing in common with a genuine settlement of the Lebanese problem. The Reagan administration, AN-NIDA' points out, is prating about "peace" while essentially trying to exert crude pressure and to force Lebanon to abandon its support for the Palestinian resistance movement.

DETAILS ON KUTAKHOV DEPARTURE FOR SYRIA

PM171557 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Mar 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] On 9 March Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the air force and USSR deputy defense minister, left for the Syrian Arab Republic on an official visit.

At Sheremetyevo Airport Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov was seen off by Army Gen I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy defense minister; Marshal of Aviation G.P. Skorikov, Col Gen Avn L.I. Batekhin and other Soviet generals and officers.

The sendoff party included M. Walid Khazbur, Syrian charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

Received by Talas

PM181603 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Mar 82 p 3

[TASS report: "Reception in Damascus"]

[Text] Damascus, 10 Mar -- Syrian Defense Minister M. Talas has received Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the air force and USSR deputy defense minister, who is on an official visit here.

Division Gen S. Haddad, commander of the Syrian Air Force and air defense, attended the meeting.

PRAVDA VIEWS U.S. ARABIAN PENINSULA POLICY

PM181021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 82 p 4

[A. Vasilyev article: "Arabia: Oil and AWACS"]

[Text] There is probably no group of countries anywhere in the world with a total population of less than 10 million people which would attract such close and constantly growing attention from the West as the oil states of Arabia. It is known that Washington has declared the whole of Southwest Asia to be the "third central strategic zone" within the framework of U.S. imperial interests alongside Western Europe and the Far East. But the heart of this zone, in the eyes of the Washington strategists, is the Persian Gulf and, since the loss of positions in Iran, the Arabian Peninsula.

Let us remind you that 2/3 of the oil reserves of the nonsocialist countries are to be found in the Gulf. At times, approximately 1 billion tons a year have been extracted here, but last year, as a result of the Iraqi-Iranian war and a reduction in the demand for liquid fuel on world markets, about 770 million tons were extracted, including 490 million tons in Saudi Arabia. The normal functioning of the economy of many countries on different continents, in particular Western Europe, Japan and partially the United States, depends on oil supplies from this region. The Arab states' income from oil exports has reached approximately $150 billion a year. A fierce struggle is underway among the United States, the countries of Western Europe and Japan both to secure markets in the Arabian countries and to attract the tens of billions of petrodollars.

What methods is the United States resorting to in order to strengthen its positions here? In relations with the developing countries of this region Washington is counting primarily on economic military and political diktat.

A few years ago the United States was guided in this region by the "Nixon doctrine." The "dirty work" of suppressing national liberation movements was entrusted to regional gendarmes, and in particular for the Persian Gulf region to the shah's Iran.

Reviewing strategic priorities taking account of the loss of Iran, in January 1980 Washington came up with the so-called "Carter doctrine." It was planned to establish control over the countries of the Persian Gulf and to defend U.S. imperial interests here from threats "from outside" by U.S. forces themselves using various means, including nuclear weapons. The concentration of a U.S. war fleet in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman, the expansion of the major military base on the island of Diego Garcia, consolidation at a number of bases in Kenya, Oman, Somalia and Egypt and an attempt to involve the European allies in joint military actions in the Indian Ocean -- all this was part of the proclaimed doctrine. The "Rapid Deployment Force" created in the United States was destined right from the start for action primarily in the Persian Gulf region.

The current U.S. administration has added substantially to the "Carter doctrine" by voicing its intention to defend pro-Western regimes in the Arab countries from "internal threat," revolution and popular insurrection. "The Reagan doctrine promises to defend the Saudi monarchy from all enemies, internal and external, as if it were 1 of our 50 states," the Chicago TRIBUNE newspaper writes. "The new doctrine makes it incumbent on the United States to use U.S. military might to ensure access to other countries' resources irrespective of their peoples' sympathies or antipathies. This is a practical definition of imperialism, and acting in this way means heading for catastrophe." Washington's course looks even more dangerous if we recall the current administration's intention to use the neutron weapon in areas like the Persian Gulf.

But how, for example, does Saudi Arabia react to the prospects of a U.S. invasion of its territory for its "salvation" and "good"? At first sight, it is difficult to imagine closer cooperation and identify of interests than what has taken shape between Washington and Riyadh. The United States imports from Saudi Arabia a significant proportion, about 1/4, of all the oil it imports (62.7 million tons in 1980). Under pressure from Washington, Saudi Arabia extracts more of this raw material than its economic interests require. The bulk of the kingdom's foreign capital investments, which exceed $100 billion, are directed toward the United States. Washington plays on the anticommunist views of a section of the Saudi ruling clan, views shaped in part by Western propaganda. Finally, there are over 10,000 Americans in uniform or civilian clothing at the U.S. military mission in Saudi Arabia.

For this reason Washington has forcefully begun to preach the ideas of "strategic consensus," that is, a military and political alliance between the conservative Arab regimes and Israel under U.S. auspices to defend them from some "Soviet threat."

However, this course conflicts with the realities of the actual Near East situation and with the growing anti-imperialist feelings among the mass of the population, and the ruling circles in the oil monarchies cannot fail to take this into account. As keeper of the "holy places of Islam" -- Mecca and Medina -- and "protector of Muslim values," the ruling clan in Saudi Arabia is an opponent of Tel Aviv's expansionist and aggressive course, which is being encouraged by the United States, and demands the liberation from occupation of east Jerusalem, where the third most important Islamic holy place -- the Al-Aqsa Mosque -- is to be found, and other Arab lands. Stressing its "Arabism," Saudi Arabia traditionally supports the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine and gives considerable financial support to the PLO.

It is worth remembering that some tens of thousands of Palestinians live and work in Saudi Arabia and there are many hundreds of thousands in the emirates of the Persian Gulf. Despite investing several billion dollars in Egypt to support As-Sadat's bloodless counterrevolution, Riyadh nonetheless rejected the Camp David deal, severing diplomatic relations with Cairo (although without abandoning the exploitation of about 500,000 Egyptian immigrant workers).

It is seen in Arabian [Peninsula] capitals that the lack of a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict intensifies the destabilization of the situation throughout the Near East and threatens the stability of the monarchical regimes. The connection between the Arab-Israeli conflict and the situation in the Persian Gulf is obvious, but U.S. policy in this conflict contradicts the national interests of all Arab countries. For this reason, while manifesting readiness to cooperate with the United States, the Arab oil states come into conflict with it when it is a question of U.S. support for Tel Aviv.

All the Arabian countries apart from Oman have rejected Washington's demand to create military bases on their territory under the U.S. flag. They have stated in a joint declaration that they adhere to the principles of nonalignment and condemn foreign interference in the region's affairs.

These factors make the Arabian oil monarchies far from simple objects for military and political manipulation by Washington. To facilitate its influence on the governments of these states, the United States is dragging the countries of Arabia into a senseless arms race. Now Saudi Arabia alone is spending approximately $20 billion a year on military needs. The military expenditure of the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait and especially Oman is great. These countries' comparatively small and weak armed forces are simply not capable of "assimilating" the arms they have acquired or the military infrastructure created. A considerable amount of military equipment is stockpiled on their territory. But who for?

The recent fight in the supreme U.S. legislative organs a propos the deal to supply Saudi Arabia with five AWACS "flying radar planes" and other military equipment to the value of $8.5 billion enabled more light to be thrown on this problem. In fact Washington plans to build at Saudi expense "reserve bases in Saudi Arabia, fully equipped and awaiting use by U.S. forces," the Washington POST wrote. A regional air defense system is being created in which as well, as Saudi Arabia, it is planned to include Kuwait, the UAE Oman, Bahrain and Qatar. Military facilities "with a sophisticated electronic command system" are being prepared, which are actually intended to become the "nerve center" for the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force." The United States is stockpiling a 3-month supply of military equipment, ammunition, fuel and provisions at the bases under construction in Saudi Arabia. It is planned to create an "ultramodern" "S-3" command, guidance and communication system, which will link together the F-15 fighters belonging to Saudi Arabia, the AWACS "flying radars," antiaircraft missiles and radar stations and also similar weapons and equipment in the other Arabian oil states. The "S-3" system is to be linked via military satellites with U.S. bases in the Indian Ocean and directly with the Pentagon. The latest computer equipment and the most modern programming facilities will be included in it and according to U.S. strategists it will unite all the ground and naval bases of the peninsula in a single complex.

The United States would like to infuse the Gulf Cooperation Council (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman), which was created a year ago, with a purely military content and turn the armed forces of these countries into appendages to the "Rapid Deployment Force." Washington hopes to force through the back door the idea of a regional military council aimed against the USSR and attached to NATO. Pakistan has a special role as supplier both of pilots and ground units for the Arabian countries.

These aims were also pursued by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger during his recent visit to Riyadh. According to assertions by the Americans, Saudi Arabia was persuaded to agree to a so-called "joint military commission." But the Saudi side was quick to state that this does not mean a formal military alliance and that the new body is allegedly "not based on cooperation in the sphere of military efforts."

With imperial arrogance Washington is again laying plans, ignoring the will and aspirations of the real owners of this region -- the peoples who live there. The mass movements in the Arabian countries, both secular and religious, are distinctly anti-American in tone. The population of the Arabian states rejects the appearance of foreign troops on their soil. Anyway, Arabia is by no means all monarchies. Democratic Yemen enjoys increasing prestige in the region, and its anti-imperialist foreign policy course and its socioeconomic transformations within the country are meeting with wide sympathy.

A threat on a scale they have never encountered before hangs over the peoples of Arabia and Southwest Asia as a whole. By intensifying an unprecedented arms race in this explosive region of the world, intimidating with intervention and knocking together military blocs, the United States is threatening international peace and security and the stability of the oil supplies which the West's economy really needs.

Peace and security can only be restored to this region by an end to the Near East conflict, an end to outside interference in the affairs of this region's countries, the granting to its peoples of the right and opportunity to decide their own affairs themselves and an end to the arms race.

MOSCOW RPP SAYS ISRAEL RUNS SCARE CAMPAIGN

TA181632 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Recently a campaign has been conducted in Israel to frighten the inhabitants about a military danger from the Arab countries. Taking part in this campaign are political personalities and military circles. From time to time new assertions appear in the press to the effect that a new clash between Israel and the Arabs is an unavoidable necessity. Thus, for example, not long ago the paper YEDI'OT AHARONOT published remarks by Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan, who pointed out that Syria is, as it were, planning to attack Israel and that a war with Syria could break out within the next few days. Eytan's remarks were repeated in March by the head of military intelligence at a news conference, when he tried to convince those present that there is an appreciable threat to Israel from Lebanon, too.

Interviews have also been granted to the press by other senior IDF personalities. The State of Israel could find itself at war, General Ben-Gal comments. The Arabs will try to launch a surprise attack in one form or another against Israel, Ben-Gal claims. The commander of the air force, General 'Ivri, speaks about the danger threatening Israel from the eastern front, because Jordan and Saudi Arabia are receiving new U.S. weapons, including AWACS aircraft. During a recent television interview the defense minister himself, Ari'el Sharon, also decided to frighten the Israelis with the increasingly large Arab arsenals; thus, Sharon said on television, Israel must be permanently ready to deliver a deterrent blow to the enemy. In other words, Israel must be permanently in a state of war with the Arab neighbors, conducting new aggressive actions against them.

The endless talk about the danger, as it were, that threatens Israel is, of course, a lie. Not one of the Arab countries is threatening to attack Israel. It is the IDF forces that are permanently attacking the Arab neighbors and that have, for several years now, been waging an undeclared war against Lebanon. The statements by Israeli generals threatening violence, the frequent maneuvers, including in southern Lebanon -- all of this is undermining the inhabitants' calm.

The question is asked: Why is the military tension in Israel being made worse? First of all, it is done to justify the antinationalist line, the militarist line of war and annexations being conducted by the ruling circles in Israel. As is well known, enormous military expenses are undermining the Israeli economy and its financial establishment. Every year the public's standard of living declines. Every year the Israelis are forced to tighten their belts even more. Therefore, the New York TIMES writes, Prime Minister Menahem Begin thinks that a belligerent foreign policy line is bringing political profits at home, because it diverts the Israelis' attention from their hard economic condition.

In addition to this, by frightening the public about a military threat from the Arab countries, the ruling elite in Israel is trying to create in the country a situation of disbelief in the possibility of achieving a just and viable peace in the Middle East. The Begin government is not aiming at such a peace. When it signed a separate deal with Egypt, the Begin government deliberately postponed for an unlimited period of time a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict. And this is why the propaganda disseminated by the generals in Israel is not calming.

CUBAN WITHDRAWAL DEPENDS ON NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT

PM160957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Midtsev article: "Rebuff for Washington's Bids"]

[Text] Angola and Cuba have decisively rejected Washington's bids to interfere in their affairs. In a joint Angolan-Cuban statement they rejected the U.S. administration's attempts to make the solution of the question of Namibia's liberation dependent on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angolan territory.

Washington's strategic scheme with regard to Namibia, illegally occupied by racist South Africa, is as simple as can be. Washington is striving to bury at all costs the UN plan, which envisages holding free elections in Namibia observed by UN administrative personnel and a military contingent (Security Council Resolution No 435), and to impose on the Namibian people a U.S.-South African plan instead. The hope is that the "contact group," comprising the United States, Britain, the FRG, France and Canada, will manage to remove the Namibian settlement process from UN control and to transfer power from the South African administration not to the real representatives of the Namibian people but to racist puppets, not to the South West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] but to the so-called "internal parties" like the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance -- collaborationist forces which will subserviently defend Western and South African interests.

Meanwhile, trying at all costs to delay the granting of independence to Namibia, the patrons of the racist Pretoria regime, primarily the Reagan administration, are whipping up passions over the presence of Cuban forces in Angola. There is no legal justification for Washington to raise the question of their withdrawal from Angolan territory. Angola and Cuba are two sovereign countries and the relations between them cannot be the subject of any interference on the part of third states, including the United States of course. Such are the elementary norms of modern international law.

In their joint statement Angola and Cuba reminded the Americans that "the presence and withdrawal of the Cuban troops in Angola are the prerogative of two sovereign states, Angola and Cuba, which fully accords with Article 51 of the UN Charter."

The Cuban forces arrived in Angola at the end of 1975 at the request of President A. Neto. At that time the newly independent Angolan state was being subjected to aggression from South African forces in the south and foreign forces and mercenaries surrounding the Angolan capital, Luanda, in the north. The combined forces of the foreign interventionists and internal counterrevolution, relying on U.S. support, had set themselves the task of stifling the young sovereign state and of hanging the yoke of a neocolonialist regime around the neck of the Angolan people, who had liberated themselves from the fetters of Portuguese colonialism. Cuba's internationalist help eliminated this danger.

Since then Angola and Cuba have twice decided to reduce the contingent of Cuban forces in Angola, and the forces of foreign aggression and domestic counterrevolution, relying on foreign support, have twice thwarted the full implementation of the decision.

On the first occasion, after the expulsion of Pretoria's forces from Angolan territory (April 1976), the strength of the Cuban forces was reduced by over 1/3 in less than 12 months. Further reductions had to be suspended since in May 1978 South Africa launched a new aggression against Angola in the Cassinga region. At the same time the danger hung over Angola's northeastern regions of an airborne landing by the NATO troops that had already been moved into the Zairian province of Shaba in connection with an uprising of Katangan policemen in which the Western press groundlessly accused Angola of being involved.

In mid-1979 the Angolan and Cuban Governments again decided to continue to reduce the Cuban military contingent in Angola. But in September 1979 South Africa began a new aggression and invaded the Angolan provinces of Cunene and Huila.

In August 1981 the South African racists launched a large-scale aggressive operation against Angola. Aircraft, artillery, tank subunits and infantry participated in it. For several weeks the aggressors marauded in Angola's southern provinces, sowing destruction and death. The U.S. veto on the resolution condemning South African aggression against Angola encourages South Africa to new armed provocations.

But Washington is not limiting itself to supporting the racist aggressor. Since R. Reagan became the White House incumbent, the U.S. and South African special services have considerably stepped up support for the counterrevolutionary organizations struggling against Angola's lawful government, primarily for the terrorist organization UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], which has strongholds in Namibia and is continuing its bandit activity in a number of southern and central Angolan provinces. Judging by U.S. press reports, Washington is also trying to resurrect the once-routed terrorist organizations FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] and FLEC [Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave] which used to operate in northern Angola and in Cabinda.

J. Savimbi and H. Roberto, the leaders of these organizations and others have long been supported by the U.S. special services. The United States supported these organizations back in the time of the struggle for Angola's liberation as a counterbalance to the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). It was hoping to insure its interests in the event of the downfall of Portuguese colonialism. These hopes, as is well known, suffered total failure. The Angolan people achieved liberation under MPLA leadership and after the proclamation of indepenendence entrusted their fate to this organization, which has become the sole and ruling party in the country.

The Washington strategists are now trying to revive the opposition forces in Angola -- UNITA, FNLA and FLEC -- using their bandit activity on the one hand as a means of combating the people's regime in Angola and on the other as an instrument of external pressure on Angola's international policy, primarily its policy toward Namibia.

In this context, South Africa's aggressive actions against Angola and the revived activity of terrorist organizations and counterrevolutionaries within Angola are separate but interrelated elements of the policy now being pursued by the United States with the aim of compelling the "frontline" states and SWAPO to deviate from the UN plan of Namibia and go halfway toward implementing instead a plan formulated jointly by the United States and South Africa and approved by the entire "Western group of five."

The increased pressure by the West and the racists on the "frontline" states and SWAPO is shown by the revival of the opposition terrorist organization acting with South African support in Mozambique, the subversive acts committed recently in Zimbabwe (the murder of Prime Minister R. Mugabe's brother, the blowing up of ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] headquarters in Salisbury and so forth), the IMF financial pressure on Tanzania, which has suffered a 3-year drought, and other facts.

The firm stance taken by Angola and Cuba in the face of Washington's dangerous schemes is of principled significance in this context. The whole thrust of U.S. policy boils down, first, to trying to relieve the United States and South Africa of the responsibility for the delay in resolving the Namibian problem and to place it without any justification on Angola and Cuba. Second, it boils down to creating yet another far-fetched pretext for postponing the resolution of the issue of Namibia's liberation.

It follows from the published joint statement that the Angolan and Cuban Governments do not reject the possibility of reviewing the question of gradual withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angolan territory. However, they expressed a readiness to review this question when the struggle being waged by SWAPO and the world community's demands lead to a resolution of the Namibian problem on the basis of the precise fulfillment of resolution No 435 and the complete withdrawal of South Africa's occupation forces to beyond the Orange River.

If South Africa's forces are removed from Namibia and a really independent government comes to power, the Angolan and Cuban Governments will be able to formulate and implement a program for gradual withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angolan territory. Demands for their withdrawal before such conditions are created constitute an attempt to put the cart before the horse. This is what Washington is now doing.

U.S.-S. AFRICA GERM WARFARE COOPERATION REVEALED

LD082138 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Last week alarm swept over South Africa at the news that the United States is helping Pieter Botha's cabinet prepare for a chemical and biological war. The disclosure was made by parties in opposition that had got hold of a document of the National Intelligence Service. More on this from Aleksandr Fedorov:

There were more leaks of information of this kind earlier. According to AFRICA NOW magazine, a special camp has been set up close to Simonstown to train South African troops in chemical biological warfare. Other reports say that germs bred at the American military research centre at Fort Detrick in Maryland were being adopted by the South African Armed Forces. Experts of the American CIA and of the intelligence service of South Africa have started experimenting with biological agents on humans under the guise of combating tropical diseases. The purpose of these experiments is to learn to employ the African climate and insects for spreading the viruses bred by (?the United States).

Judging by the document disclosed by the South African opposition, these reports are true, but far from covering all activities of the Botha government in this area. Chemical research centers are to come into operation soon in Venda and Transkei Bantustans. The document (?holds) that epidemic diseases that frequently claim a lot of lives in these Bantustans guarantee full secrecy in case of unforeseen circumstances. In other words, any accident at the centers can easily be blamed on an epidemic, a great convenience for those who are going to produce lethal germs on a mass scale.

This cooperation between the intelligence services of the United States and South Africa poses a real threat to South Africa itself and its neighbors, considering Washington's plans to start full-scale production of chemical and biological weapons. This threat is all the more serious because of the Pentagon's intention to site substantial amounts of chemical and biological agents in the Indian Ocean. The plan is to fix nerve-gas warheads on new missiles with a range of up to 4,000 km that are to be deployed on Diego Garcia Island. Naval craft and strategic bombers based there will also be equipped with chemical weapons.

While these plans are still in the blueprint stage, the CIA instructors at the Venda and Transkei centers work full blast ahead to train those who are to carry them out, contaminating insects with terrible viruses. This training may well come in handy for South Africa, if not for the United States, at any time since South Africa is virtually at war with the independent African nations.

The former CIA officer Philip Agee, realizing that much of the CIA's planning remains uncovered, once wrote that no book can describe in detail what the American intelligence service does in Africa. (?He cites) just a few trusted methods. The CIA engineers plots, coups d'etat, assassinations and invasions by mercenaries; carries out bombings and propaganda campaigns; infiltrates its agents into trade unions and arranges secret arms deals. But judging by the latest reports from South Africa it can go much farther than that.

RADIO MOSCOW DESIGNATES SOLIDARITY MONTH

PY181729 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Undated recorded statement by Schafik Jorge Handal, Secretary General of the Communist Party of El Salvador, from the "Month of Solidarity with the Salvadoran People's Struggle" feature]

[Text] On the occasion of the initiation of the "month of solidarity with the Salvadoran people's struggle" on Radio Moscow, I want to address all people in the world from our small country whose people have risen in arms to gain their freedom and which today faces the serious threat of foreign military intervention sponsored by the Reagan administration.

In a brazenly warmongering, interventionist and arrogant act, the Reagan administration seeks to prevent the victory of our people -- a victory forced with blood, a victory toward which we have been moving so painstakingly and overcoming so many obstacles for so many years.

The FMLN armed forces are currently carrying out an offensive which is increasingly gaining momentum. The guerrilla forces that approach popular neighborhoods of San Salvador or the other major cities of the interior of the republic are enthusiastically welcomed by the people, who support them in every respect.

The Salvadoran people are moving closer to victory; although painstaking, they keep moving closer to this goal. As the threats of intervention mount, the struggle of all peoples and the opposition of all those forces who advocate democracy, peace and self-determination mount accordingly.

A large bloc of governments and popular forces which oppose intervention in El Salvador has been formed in the world. The Salvadoran people trust that this bloc, in a worldwide effort, will erect the main obstacle to the imperialists, their puppets and allies to invervention in our country.

Never before have we needed solidarity so much. This is why Radio Moscow's decision to establish this month of solidarity with our struggling people is an initiative which we welcome and laud. Cheers to the world solidarity with the heroic, struggling Salvadoran people; cheers to this effort to prevent intervention in El Salvador and Central America and to guarantee the Salvadoran people's right to self-determination.

SALVADORAN WITNESS EMBARRASSES STATE DEPARTMENT

PM190909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 82 p 5

[By correspondent N. Kurdyumov and TASS reports under the general heading: "Exposing the Provocation]

[Text] Washington, 15 Mar -- In an attempt to overcome opposition in the country and in Congress to its course in El Salvador and other countries in the Caribbean Basin, the Reagan administration is resorting to various strategems whose purpose is to create the impression that the civil war in El Salvador is the result of outside interference and to fool Americans with the big lie that Nicaragua and Cuba are training, arming and leading the Salvadoran patriots' struggle.

To all appearances, the State Department has pinned great hopes on its "trump card" -- the prefabricated evidence of a national liberation movement member specially sent from El Salvador who was born in Nicaragua and taken prisoner in January 1981 -- that is, over a year ago.

However, when the "witness" got to the State Department building, where on 12 March he was presented to a group of U.S. mass media representatives, the organizers found that the prisoner, who had suffered a long series of tortures at the hands of the CIA but had not been broken, was certainly not saying what he had been told to say on pain of death. It is easy to understand how shocked they were, for 19-year-old Orlando Jose Tardencillas not only categorically denied that he had received military training in Ethiopia and Cuba and had then be specially sent by the Nicaraguan Government to El Salvador, but he also exposed the U.S. services' dirty work in preparing this provocation.

The shameful "press conference" had to be interrupted.

Washington, 15 Mar -- The U.S. State Department arranged a special press conference on 12 March to prove its accusations on Nicaraguan and Cuban interference in Salvadoran affairs. "U.S. officials were obviously hoping," an NBC correspondent pointed out, "that Tardencillas would confirm that he was a soldier in the Nicaraguan army trained in Cuba to lead the guerrilla war in El Salvador. However, to everyone's embarrassment, that did not happen."

All this shows that provocative measures the U.S. administration is taking in its vain attempt to prove the truth of its fabrications. It is clear that Washington does not shrink from grossly manipulating the facts and deceiving the public.

The Washington POST, which stressed that the State Department's actions had been "irresponsible and ridiculous," writes that the press conference fiasco "caused such a painful richochet that the administration will scarcely be able to get the public to take seriously any assertions about the so-called Cuban and Nicaraguan threat in Central America and the Caribbean."

NICARAGUA BLAMES ATTACKS ON EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS

LD181800 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 18 Mar, TASS -- According to Nicaragua's National Defence Ministry, a patrol boat flying a Salvadorean flag intruded into Nicaragua's territorial water in the Gulf of Fonseca and fired at a Nicaraguan fishing vessel. A Nicaraguan Coast Guard unit on board the fishing vessel took measures to repulse the piratic attack. A Nicaraguan serviceman was gravely wounded in the shootout, the fishing boat was damaged.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry lodged a strong protest with the Salvadorean regime, assessing the incident as a premeditated provocation directed at heightening tension in the region and preparing further aggressive actions.

The Foreign Ministry also lodged a note of protest with the Honduran Government in connection with the fact that a Honduran patrol boat and a vessel flying a Salvadorean flag, which was accompanying it, intruded into Nicaragua's territorial waters on March 15 and attacked a passenger launch. The attackers captured and took to Honduras two inspectors of the Nicaraguan National Institute of Fisheries who were on board the launch.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry demanded their immediate release. The note stresses that Nicaragua resolutely denounces the gross violations of its national sovereignty. There are all grounds to fear that, in an atmosphere of intensification of provocations and threats, such incidents are a prelude for aggression on a larger scale, the document says.

The note also expresses protest in connection with the criminal actions by counter-revolutionary Somoza gangs who carry out with impunity armed raids into Nicaragua from Honduran territory. On March 14 this year, the note says, Honduras-based terrorists penetrated into Nicaraguan territory and carried out a number of acts of sabotage.

Nicaragua repeatedly expressed protests against attacks carried out from Honduran territory. The Honduran Government, however, has done nothing so far to put an end to these criminal actions.

SALVADORAN 'PATRIOTS' ATTACK JUNTA TROOPS

LD190022 Moscow TASS in English 2113 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] San Jose, 19 Mar, TASS -- On Wednesday units of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front carried out bold operations against the junta's troops in various departments of the country.

According to a broadcast of the radio station Venceremos of the National Liberation Front, the rebels assumed control of a suburb district of the city of San Miguel lying 140 kilometers to the east of San Salvador. Barricades were erected on the approaches to the city to stop the advance of governmental troops.

The guerrillas held in San Miguel rallies with the participation of the local population.

The patriots opened fire at an army patrol on the highway linking the city of Santa Ana with the capital of the country. Two enemy soldiers were killed.

A truck carrying troops of the undemocratic regime was caught in rebel cross-fire in the San Vincente Department.

According to the admission of the junta's spokesmen, an elite brigade of punitive troops, "Atlacatl," specializing in guerrilla warfare, lost 420 men last year.

U.S. INCREASES 'INTERFERENCE' IN EL SALVADOR

LD181848 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- The Soviet weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMA] points to the heightening of the United States' interference in El Salvador. In the issue for March 19, the weekly writes that the military aid to the Salvadoran junta in the current financial year was to make up 26 million dollars. In February the U.S. administration increased it to 55 million by making extra-ordinary allocations and in the budget for 1983 this aid will amount to 60 million.

There is no doubt, the article says, that this is an incomplete figure. During the hearings in the Congress, Senator Paul Tsongas asked Assistant to the Secretary of State Enders [as received] if the limit to the military aid to San Salvador has been set. He was given a negative answer. Tsongas is of the opinion that the present policy can lead to the sending of U.S. land forces, the way it happened in Vietnam. "The Senator's concern does not rest on ice. He got these impressions on the basis of the changes in Washington's policy. If the experience in Vietnam is to be taken into consideration, they herald armed interference," the weekly writes.

The United States' threat to Nicaragua and Cuba is heightening. The article says that the United States operations in the Caribbean area are based on the programme endorsed by the National Security Council. As much as 19 million dollars has been allocated for subversive activities. High-ranking officers of the National guards of former dictator Somosa and Cuban counterrevolutionaries play the role of the performers of these actions. Mercenaries undergo military training in special camps in the south of Flordia and in California. Units of terrorists already make raids to the Nicaraguan territory from bases in Honduras created on the funds of the CIA.

It is also planned to heighten the economic blockade and subversive operations against Cuba. Extraordinary plans of "direct pressure" on Cuba are envisaged, including sea blockade and strikes from the air, the NEW TIMES writes.

U.S. PLANS 'SUBVERSIVE' BROADCASTS TO CUBA

PM181459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Mar 82 p 3

[A. Moiseyev "Rejoinder": "The 'Gusanos' on the Airwaves"]

[Text] It has been officially announced in Washington that a new American subversive radio station will soon begin broadcasting from U.S. territory. It has been hypocritically and blasphemously christened Radio Free Cuba. It has been allocated $10 million in the current fiscal year.

What will these radio saboteurs do? According to T. Enders, U.S. assistant secretary of state, who addressed the House Foreign Affairs Committee the other day, Free Cuba will play the same role on the Latin American continent as Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe play on the European Continent. Who will supply the "poisoned information"? The American spy departments and the Pentagon.

Appropriate personnel have been selected for the subversive center. They come mainly from the Cuban counterrevolutionary "Guasanos" who have entrenched themselves in the United States. President Reagan has already appointed one Jorge (Mask) to the leadership of Radio Free Cuba. He is a fierce anti-communist and an inveterate enemy of socialist Cuba. Here is what the American magazine INQUIRY writes about him: "(Mask) took an active part in the armed intervention against Cuba in the Bay of Pigs and supplied terrorist groupings like the 'Cuban national movement' with substantial resources. He is an old friend of the notorious international bandit Orlando (Bosh), who led the operation to blow up a Cuban passenger plane in 1976...."

There is no doubt that the espionage radio station will not say a word about the Cuban people's successes. The slanderers do not care that in less than 25 years the island of freedom, with the active cooperation of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries, has achieved tremendous successes in developing a multi-sector economy, science, technology, culture and art, and that in the first years of the revolution the country -- alone in Latin America -- put an end to the acute social problems of mass illiteracy, epidemics and unemployment.

The "gusanos" have different aims. "The Caribbean and the whole of Latin America are today being subjected to massive disinformation campaigns unleashed by U.S. propaganda centers," the well-known Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez writes in the Panamanian newspaper CRITICA. "The aim of this campaign is to create hostility and distrust toward the island of freedom." How can we fail to recall prerevolutionary Cuba here? Then too American news agencies slandered its people by depicting the island as an idle place for the amusement of Yankee tourists. The Cubans were stuffed with cliches praising the "American way of life" and slandering the USSR and the other socialist countries.

The Yankees want to attack Cuba with the same propaganda equipment today. But it is quite obvious that the radio terrorists, like their Washington masters, will once again suffer a crushing fiasco.

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN NICARAGUA

PY181908 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] The Nicaraguan State Council has declared a state of emergency in the country. This means that some rights and guarantees will be temporarily suspended, but the measure has been put in force in view of Washington's aggressive plan.

The decree issued by the Nicaraguan State Council states that U.S. Government plans seeks to create disorders, undermine the economy, organize attacks against revolutionary leaders, and ultimately replace the people's government with Somoza-like dictatorship.

U.S. armed intervention in Nicaragua is no secret. President Reagan has approved the establishment of a mercenary army in Honduras to perpetrate sabotage and terrorist attacks in Nicaragua. According to U.S. intelligence services plans, this mercenary gang must prepare the field for direct aggression which will be carried out by a joint force comprised of troops supplied by the United States and pro-Yankee Latin American regimes.

Looming clouds pushed by northern winds cast a shadow over Nicaragua. Even the U.S. magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT describes the Reagan administration's position regarding Nicaragua as a war of nerves that is a prelude to armed intervention.

Therefore, the state of emergency in Nicaragua is a natural and indispensable measure that had to be put in force to defend national sovereignty, and those revolutionary achievements for which thousands of Nicaraguans have given their lives. Furthermore, the efforts made by the Nicaraguan Government to strengthen its defense capacity is also legitimate, since in doing so no armed intervention will take the Nicaraguan people by surprise as Washington strategists are planning.

Moreover, the decree issued by the Nicaraguan Government notes Washington's resonsibility for the deterioration of the general situation in Central America. The United States is obviously planning to spread bloodshed throughout the region. It is obstructing the achievement of a negotiated solution in the Salvadoran conflict and speculating on the suffering of the Salvadoran people to plunge the Central American nations in a fratricidal war. Since the same fate is planned for the Caribbean nations, the United States is disrupting the situations of Cuba, Granada and other governments maintaining a policy independent from it.

Moreover, Washington is probably planning to conceal its colonialist plans under alleged international actions. With this objective, Washington continues to promote the establishment of the so-called inter-American forces, which will be nothing more than a U.S. imperialist contingent in Latin America.

Observers have noted that the present situation in Central America and the Caribbean poses a serious threat to peace on the continent. Brandishing its warlike attitude, the United States has resumed its gunboat policy, which in view of the present situation will have unforseen consequences and cause the suffering of thousands of persons.

Therefore, the enforcement of a state of emergency in Nicaragua is nothing more than the decision of a free people who refuse to accept the restoration of a bloody antipopular regime by imperialist bullies.

U.S. COUNTERPROPOSALS FOR TALKS OPPOSED

LD182032 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1510 GMT 18 Mar 82

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov]

[Text] Managua, 18 Mar (TASS) -- "We want peace but we will fight our enemies to the last drop of blood if aggression is committed." These words are often repeated by ordinary Nicaraguans and are the theme of programs on radio and television and of articles in Nicaragua's central newspapers. The normal rhythm of working life is being maintained in the country, but the Nicaraguan people are ready at any moment to rise in the defense of revolutionary gains which U.S. imperialism and the internal couterrevolution are encroaching upon.

Workers at plants and factories, farmworkers and political and public organizations express full support for the government's measures aimed at strengthening the revolution and ensuring the defense of their motherland.

Thousands more Nicaraguans are joining the Sandinista people's militia. Mass meetings are being held at militia assembly points. The participants in these meetings condemn Washington's militaristic policy and declare their unshakable resolve to uphold the motherland's independence.

In a reference to the so-called "counterproposals for talks" with Nicaraguan put forward by U.S. Secretary of State Haig, Tomas Borge, a member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberational Front and minister of the interior, declared that "we will not hold talks under the barrel of a gun." For talks to be held, he said, Washington must, above all, abandon its aggressive plans toward Nicaragua. Such talks should also make provision for a peaceful settlement throughout Central America.

U.S. CARIBBEAN PLAN TERMED NEOCOLONIALIST

PM171313 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kamorin article under the rubric "On a Topical Subject": "Doctrine of Aggression"]

[Text] In recent decades probably not one U.S. President has refrained from proclaiming some new "doctrine" with regard to the Latin American countries, and President Reagan is no exception. In his speech at OAS headquarters he expounded a "development plan for the Caribbean," publicized by its creators as a "new Marshall Plan." This label was meant to emphasize the large-scale nature of its impact on the economy of that region.

What, then, did the U.S. President offer the countries of Central America and the Caribbean?

He did spare promises, he promised the region's states duty-free exports of their products to the United States, tax concessions for American capital investments in the region and, additional financial and technical assistance.

But in fact all the points of this plan do not look as attractive as the U.S. President tried to paint them. Let us start with the fact that the entire program is aimed primarily at "stimulating free enterprise and the private sector," which in Central America is almost totally dependent on American corporations. The pumping of capital into the private sector can lead only to the strengthening of the existing neocolonial structure of the Central American economy.

The publicized "mini Marshall Plan" envisages that "assistance" will be provided on a bilateral basis. This will enable the United States to implement a "divide and rule" policy, set certain countries against others and work to split the strengthening movement for mutually advantageous economic cooperation.

As for the tax indulgencies for American investors of capital, this measure gives U.S. monopolies the "green light" for still greater enslavement of the region's countries. In short, Reagan has given these states just one gurantee: That in the future they will be robbed still more efficiently than before.

Commenting on the anti-Cuban and anti-Nicaraguan thrust of Washington's "new plan," President J. Lopez Portillo of Mexico said: I do not approve of the discriminatory nature of American aid, and specifically the exclusion from the recipients of many states of the region for ideological reasons. Discrimination in the economy is supplemented by an interventionist policy. The true worth of Reagan's words about "appeasing Central America" has been shown by the U.S. administration's actions following on the President's speech. The United States is holding provocative military maneuvers in the Caribbean, moving large troop contingents to Nicaragua's borders and unleashing a large-scale secret war against the Nicaraguan revolution with the participation of the CIA and Somoza's surviving followers. At the same time Washington is assiduously cajoling its "loyal friends" -- repressive dictatorial regimes.

El Salvador alone will get $100 million of the $350 million of economic "aid" and $35 million of the $60 million being allocated for military purposes. This kind of distribution of the sums within the plan's framework clearly shows its chief purpose -- to put together a counterrevolutionary bloc backed by ultra-rightwing forces of Central American reaction.

The President's speech has not aroused any special optimism in the United States either. "Reagan's so-called 'Caribbean initiative' can only exacerbate the problems facing the countries of Central America," Prof (R. Burbach) of the University of California points out. "There is nothing new in this initiative." It probably could not be put more accurately. The rhetoric of the "new Marshall Plan" conceals the American policy of neocolonialism and aggression.

CHILEAN CP OFFICIAL ON LATIN AMERICA SITUATION

LD182304 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1835 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar (TASS) -- Volodia Teitelboim, member of the Chilean Communist Party Central Committee Political Commission, has stated that the people of Chile will not allow Pinochet to send Chilean soldiers to Central America to kill Salvadorans and Nicaraguans. It will do all it can to prevent this.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent he drew attention to specific steps taken by Washington to throw together so-called "inter-American forces" for intervention in El Salvador, using the armies of a number of Latin American countries for this purpose. Following the recent visit to Santiago by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State T. Enders, Pinochet expressed servile readiness to take part in "collective action" in El Salvador.

A serious threat, V. Teitelboim continued, has also been looming over Nicaragua, Cuba and Grenada. As is known, President Reagan has instructed the CIA to form armed gangs for raids on Nicaragua from neighboring Honduras.

Meanwhile, the Chilean patriot continued, protests against the escalation of Washington's interference in the affairs of the peoples of Central American and the Caribbean Basin are swelling in the United States. U.S. public opinion does not want El Salvador to become a second Vietnam for the United States. That is why the Pentagon wants the dirty work of killing Latin Americans to be done by Latin Americans themselves.

The peoples living south of the Rio Grande do not want to be an instrument for interventionist intrigue by U.S. imperialist. They are demanding that the people of El Salvador be given the opportunity to resolve their problems without outside interference and that Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada be given security guarantees, V. Teitelboim stressed in conclusion.

REAGAN SUBMITS CARIBBEAN PLAN TO CONGRESS

LD181812 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] U.S. President Reagan today submitted the so-called economic plan for the Caribbean Basin to Congress for study. This plan is basically intended to consolidate the domination of U.S. imperialism in the Western Hemisphere.

MOSCOW TELEVISION COVERAGE OF CENTRAL AMERICA

LD132032 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 1155 GMT on 6 March carries a program entitled "Documents and Witnesses Accuse" on the situation in El Salvador. The narrator opens by saying that the person with his back to the camera cannot be identified as he is a leader of the Farabundo Marti Liberation Movement visiting the USSR and must return to his country to continue the struggle. Another person is identified by the narrator as Miguel (Marmala), founder of the Slavadoran Communist Party, who has been expelled from El Salvador after being imprisoned there. The narrator, noting that the contents of the program are based on what these men

have said, states that reactionary dictatorial regimes have ruled El Salvador for over 50 years, and that they have always resorted to violence to prevent the people obtaining any kind of social justice, democracy or freedom. He speaks about the number of people killed in the past 2 years of junta rule and refers to atrocities being committed by the armed forces there.

The narrator then says that the United States is assisting the junta in its genocide policy and cites Enders, of the State Department Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, on the strategic importance of Central America and the Caribbean and on U.S. plans to intervene in El Salvador. The narrator says that Secretary of State Haig spoke in the Senate about preventing the victory of national liberation forces and the possibility of dispatching troops to El Salvador to support the Duarte regime. The narrator describes a film clip showing U.S. instructors with weapons in El Salvador.

Describing the operations mounted against the insurgents, the narrator says that a special unit has been formed modelled on the Rapid Deployment Force. This special unit has better pay and equipment than regular units and is equipped with helicopters to switch rapidly from one trouble spot to another. Hundreds of refugees are fleeing to Honduras and atrocities are being committed against the population.

The narrator cites (Marmala) is saying that it is easy to disprove the U.S. allegation that the USSR is supplying weapons via Cuba since the weapons captured during the fighting originate from the United States and other imperialist cointries, and that the partisans also make their own weapons. The narrator concludes by noting Mexico's and France's recognition of the Salvadoran struggle.

Fesunenko Review

LD131840 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 1445 GMT on 13 March carries the "International Review" program presented by political observer I. Fesunenko.

Fesunenko describes U.S. press coverage of the situation in Central America and mentions camps situated on the borders of Honduras. He goes on to speak about reports from El Salvador of fighting between government troops and insurgents, particularly in the vicinity of Quasapa, and refers to allegations of Nicaraguan, Cuban and Soviet involvement in the events in El Salvador. President Durate of El Salvador is shown on screen while the presenter says that he is in the hands of the junta generals and Washington. The camera then shows U.S. Secretary of State Haig while Fesunenko says that Haig has spoken of foreign interference in El Salvador and a press agency reported the presence of 100 Soviet specialists in El Salvador to handle supply problems. Fesunenko says that all these allegations were disproved by LE MONDE correspondent who spent 15 days in El Salvador, and quotes from the LE MONDE correspondent's report. Fesunenko then refers to the preparations for elections in El Salvador which he says have been planned by the United States to give a semblance of legality to the regime there. He introduces a video report on the headquarters of a Salvadoran ultrarightist party and speaks about former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger's plans to isolate El Salvador.

On the situation in Guatemala, Fesunenko speaks of the general elections held there recently, adding that a similar sordid farce is now being prepared in El Salvador. The camera shows scenes from Guatemala shortly before the elections.

In conclusion, Fesunenko speaks about the Brezhnev speech at the Kremlin dinner in honor of Finland's President Koivisto on 9 March. Fesunenko cites Brezhnev saying that the way to peace and security is not through a state imposing its will on others but through respecting the right of every nation to build its own life, noting that this is in line with the proposals of the Nicaraguan Government and remarks by the President of Mexico, who voiced concern over the region's problems.

MATERIALS ON AUCCTU CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

Appeal to Working People

LD181952 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1604 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- Here is the text of the "Appeal of the 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions to Working People and Trade Unions of the World":

Expressing the wish of Soviet working people to uphold peace and to defend the principal right of man, the right to life, the 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions addresses an urgent appeal to working people and trade unions in all countries:

Use all the might of worker solidarity to bar the path to the ruinous arms race and undertake resolute joint actions against the forces of aggression and militarism which are threatening to bring mankind to the brink of a worldwide thermonuclear catastrophe.

The actions of U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies are arousing profound alarm and anxiety among working people. The refusal to ratify the SALT-II treaty, the plans to deploy new U.S. missiles in Europe, the proclamation of the doctrine of "limited" nuclear war, the decision on full-scale production of neutron weapons, the program for "chemical rearmament" and the unprecedented escalation of military spending and military preparations are the steps threatening the cause of peace that have been taken by the imperialist powers in recent years. They are dictated by the selfish interests of rich capital and, above all, the military and industrial complex, and not by the mythical "Soviet military threat."

Trade unions, which unite hundreds of millions of working people in the world, cannot tolerate the fact that the arms race is siphoning off vast human and material resources and swallowing up billions of dollars. The investment of these resources in creative goals would mean helping to create millions of jobs, eliminate hunger, poverty, disease and illiteracy and socially and economically develop countries that have freed themselves from the colonial yoke.

The 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions declares that there is nothing more important than peace. The path to peace lies not through confrontation and the arms race, but through cooperation and political dialogue between states with differing social systems -- through an open and honest search for mutually acceptable solutions.

The Soviet peace program for the eighties, put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, is based on precisely this. Soviet working people regard the implementation of this program and the constructive peace initiatives of the USSR as a realistic path to the prevention of a new war.

Trade Unions can and must make their contribution to the cause of preserving and developing detente. It behooves us all to say a weighty "no" to militarist hysteria, to seek an end to the arms race and to work for the strengthening of peace. Soviet trade unions support the 10th WFTU Congress' idea of declaring 1 September -- the day on which World War II began -- a day of trade union action for peace and to mark it every year with extensive antiwar action.

Let joint actions, specific new initiatives in favor of disarmament and detente, the elimination of the threat of war, be the overall contribution of the international trade union movement to the cause of the struggle for peace.

We call on the working people and trade unions of all countries:

To resolutely rebuff the intrigues of militarism,

To actively work for unity of action in the antiwar movement,

To step up the struggle to halt the arms race,

To outlaw nuclear war,

'Text' of Mielnicki Speech

LD182338 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 18 Mar 82

["Text" of speech by Eugeniusz Mielnicki, head of the Polish delegation, at the 18 March session of the 17th AUCCTU Congress held in Moscow -- recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades, delegates. Let me first thank you most cordially for inviting us Polish trade unionists to the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, the world's largest organization of working people, which is traditionally connected by strong ties of fraternal cooperation with the Polish class trade union movement. [applause] Accept, dear comrade delegates, sincerest wishes from the bottoms of our hearts for successful and fruitful debates, for working out new, constructive tasks for your trade union movement, serving faithfully, as always, the most vital interests of the Soviet working people, the unity of the world trade unions and the greatest achievement of people of our time -- world peace. [applause]

Through you, comrade delegates, I wish the peoples of the great country of the Soviets further achievements in the construction of communism. [applause]

For us Polish trade unionists, in the present period your congress appears as an example of unity and consciousness of (?all) working people of the Soviet Union. This unity is authentic and is a cause for pride. It enables us to realize even better how painful is the lack of such unity (?now) in the Polish trade union movement.

Dear friends, in Poland class unions have a more than century-long tradition of struggle for the rights and welfare of the working masses, for the social and national liberation of workers' class for socialism. Reborn in 1944-45 after several score years of disarray, the uniform trade union movement in people's Poland was a great, historic achievement of the working masses. It contributed notably to the reconstruction of the country from war damage, to the development of our socialist economy and to the great social and cultural progress of the working people.

However, a mistaken economic and social policy of recent years and deviations from Leninist principles have led to crass deformations in the economy and social life of our country. Taking advantage of social dissatisfaction and of society, hostile counterrevolutionary forces, instigated by imperialism, entered an open fight against the socialist system. With cynical, persuasive demagogy, the extremist forces gathered within the Solidarity trade union made use of a section of working people, young and inexperienced people in particular, for their political games. Consequently, trade union unity, built up with such difficulty, was smashed.

I believe there is no need to present the further course of events in our country -- they are well known. In just a few words: they caused, as is universally known, the need to introduce martial law, which -- today we can say this openly -- saved our country from national tragedy and perhaps even saved other nations from a world conflict.

The events in our country convincingly prove what dangers arise from deviating from Marxist-Leninist principles in a socialist state, what a great danger is the violation of trade union unity, the unity of the workers' class, and the wakening of the vigilance over the plots of internal and external antisocialism forces, the forces of reaction and imperialism, are.

The events in our country are a lesson on the subject of the role and place of trade unions in a socialist state and the principles that should shape the leading role of the party in trade unions. From this lesson we Poles in particular are drawing many conclusions. The Polish trade union movement should be based on the political program of the Communist Party and defend the interests of working people.

Only then will it properly and convincingly implement its practical and genuine trade union tasks in the interest of its members.

Esteemed Comrade delegations, the activists of industrial [branzowych] trade unions are struggling to give the trade union movement a socialist character; they refer to the best traditions and experiences of the world trade union movement; and they want it to express the most vital interests of the workers' class, the interests of a socialist state, of which it is a joint master, to favor honest and creative work and to serve the idea of the unity of Poles. We want it to be a strong and self-governing movement, constituting a strong foundation of socialism in Poland. But, above all, we want it to be an authentic movement, genuinely wanted and needed by working people in factories and enterprises.

In our work we shall be strengthening fraternal collaboration with all trade unions of the countries of the socialist community, with all progressive trade unions of the world. Many difficult tasks await us, industrial trade union activists. However, in our state there is no lack of constructive forces. We have a multimillion force of industrial trade unions -- whom I represent today at your congress -- who are fighting for socialism and the regeneration of trade union unity on class principles.

Our industrial trade unions have given undeniable proof of their ideological content in the most difficult period and they will fulfill their duty now and in the future. We shall make ample use of the valuable experience, the wealth of ideas and the achievements of your 17th congress.

We wish to assure you, comrades, that nobody will succeed in wrenching our state from the socialist community. [prolonged applause] We are not alone in our fight and the threats of President Reagan do not frighten us. [applause] The sympathetic internationalist help from the great country of the soviets and all socialist countries will let us survive the worst period -- we have had and still have proof of that. Friends in need are friends indeed -- This old Polish folk saying was fully confirmed during the meeting of Comrades Leonid Brezhnev and Wojciech Jaruzelski in the first days of March 1982. [applause] Nobody in the world now has too much of anything; that is why we express our thanks for sympathy and assistance rendered to we Poles all the more warmly and cordially. [applause]

Although we still find ourselves in a very complex and difficult situation, we firmly believe that the wisdom of the conscious portion of the wokers' class will win; that the Polish nation and we Polish trade unionists will find enough strength to pull our country from the crisis, so that in a not-too-distant future a strong, class trade union movement will be rebuilt.

Dear Comrades, the 17th Congress of Trade Unions of the country of the soviets is undoubtedly an historic event in the trade union movement and the social and political life of the world. It is here, from this trade union platform, that Comrade Leonid Brezhnev presented new peace initiatives and new disarmament proposals. We Poles know what peace means: In the last world war 6 million Poles perished -- that is 1 in 5. We also remember, together with the Soviet people, that over 20 million Soviet people also perished then. This is why we have learned to value life and peace; this is why we wish to say loudly from this platform that the duty of the whole world, of the trade union movement, is to support as far as possible the unwaveringly peaceful policy of the USSR. [applause]

May it please you, esteemed comrades, yesterday, in the palace of congresses -- in this hall -- I witnessed two moving moments: The first was when Comrade Brezhnev was decorated with the gold medal of the WFTU for his comprehensive achievements in peace and his service to the working people. [applause] In the name of Polish trade unionists, I wish to congratulate Comrade Brezhnev on this splendid decoration and to wish... [prolonged applause]... much health. The second moving moment was the performance of singing,carefree, smiling children.

These two moments are very closely connected: Here we have on one side the fight for peace and on the other side the possibility for millions of children to smile and to sing to us free of care. [applause] Therefore, from this platform, I would like to address the activists of all trade unions in the world with the request that irrespective of their views and beliefs they have a uniform view on peace -- and then we will win. [applause]

DRA Delegate's Speech

LD191120 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 March, TASS -- "The young trade union organisation of Afganistan, together with the entire people of the country, are building a new, just and democratic society under the guidance of the leadership of our party," said Abdul Sattar Pordeli, chairman of the Afghan Central Council of Trade Unions, addressing the delegates to the 17th Congress of Trade Unions of the USSR.

"In conditions of an undeclared war waged by international imperialism, hegemonism and local reaction against revolutionary Afghanistan, our party and the government are implementing deep-running social transformations the purpose of which is to improve the position of the working people, Abdul Sattar Pordeli stressed.

He said that a few days ago the first party conference had ended its work in Kabul. It had adopted a programme of action of the PDPA to strengthen the economy and the defence capability of the country, to build a new just society in Afghanistan in the name of happiness of all nations, nationalities and tribes living in the country.

"The Soviet Union, loyal to proletarian internationalism, invariably and selflessly supports the striving of our people to eliminate social and national oppression in our country, Abdul Sattar Pordeli said. "We say in all sincerity that many achievements of our revolution have become possible thanks to the disinterested and permanent moral support and great material assistance on the part of the Soviet Union."

"On behalf of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Afghanistan," Abdul Sattar Pordeli said, "I express heart-felt gratitude to Soviet trade unions which rendered and continue rendering all-round assistance and support to Afghan trade unions in developing the trade union movement in our country and in carrying out various social measures."

"At the present time the heroic and revolutionary Afghanistan is in the united ranks of the progressive forces at the front of the world-wide struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism chauvinism, Zionism, racism and apartheid," Abdul Sattar Pordeli went on to say.

"It is an open secret that all 'trouble spots' on Earth come into existence on the initiative of or with support from international imperialism: The fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq, the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the people of Palestine, the existence of the apartheid regime in South Africa at the end of the 20th century and aggression against Angola, a constant threat of aggression against heroic Cuba, and support for reactionary regimes in Southeast Asia and in Central America," Abdul Sattar Pordeli said.

It has become known, the Afghan trade union leader said, that on the initiative of U.S. President Reagan imperialism announced March 21 the day of solidarity with the Afghan counter-revolution. "Trade unions of Afghanistan together with the whole of the working people of the republic express a wrathful protest against the new act of imperialist interference in the internal affairs of our country... together with all peaceloving and progressive forces of the world they demand an end to imperiliast aggression in all parts of the world. The people of each country are free to decide their destiny."

Speech by Salvadoran Delegate

LD191128 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 19 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar, TASS -- Carlos Sanchez, secretary of the Unitary Federation of Trade Unions of El Salvador, conveyed warm fraternal greetings to the delegates of the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions from the leadership of the Unitary Federation of Trade Unions of El Salvador, from the committee of trade union unity, from all the workers and the people of El Salvador. Carlos Sanchez told the congress about the situation in his country.

"The ruling Salvadoran military-civilian junta," Carlos Sanchez said, "today hopes only for the support from the bellicose top leadership of the United States with President Reagan at the head, despite opposition on the part of broad circles of the American people. The President of the United States is pressing for the implementation of his interventionist plans with regard to our country. We believe that these palns will never come true, thanks to a high-pressure international campaign of solidarity with the struggle waged by the people of our country."

"Using the talk about the struggle against 'international terrorism' as a cover, President Reagan is using the conflict in El Salvador to justify the dispatch of U.S. troops to combat the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front," said Carlos Sanchez. "He is trying to draw into proposed aggression the governments of such neighbouring countries as Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica and others. Hypocritically asserting that struggle against 'terrorism' is going on in El Salvador, the bellicose circles of the United States are making aggressive plans against the Nicaraguan revolution and against socialist Cuba."

"In the opinion of the unitary federation of trade unions of El Salvador, the conflict in the country should be solved politically. We reject and denounce the interventionist plans of the United States and we do not think that the elections to be staged by the junta in March would offer a way out from the crisis," Carlos Sanchez said.

"We believe," Carlos Sanchez said, "that the struggle of the Salvadoran people is developing successfully. But our victory is impossible without broad international solidarity... not a single honest, peaceloving person can regard with indifference the events in Central America and the Caribbean. To thwart the interventionist plans of the United States is the task of each patriot, each citizen who treasures peace, democracy and freedom."

Nicaraguan's Statement

LD191126 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 19 Mar 82

["Statement by Representative of Nicaraguan Trade Union" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar, TASS -- "We welcome the new peace initiatives put forward here by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev," German Bendaides Corrillo, representative of Nicaraguan trade unions, said today in his statement at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions. "We consider these initiatives a matter of vital concern to us, too, because the Nicaraguan people are also a tireless fighter for peace."

"Our working class sticks firmly to class positions and is playing an important part in the efforts to overcome the difficulties of national reconstruction and in building a new society," the speaker said. "Nicaraguans today are determined to defend with arms in hand the gains brought by the victory of the revolution in July 1979. The defence and consolidation of the revolution on the basis of the alliance of working people and the peasantry is the top-priority task of the Nicaraguan trade union movement."

The revolution of Nicaraguan working people is now faced with serious threats, he went on. "Latin America is today the scene of a great upsurge of national liberation struggle.

In Central America and the Caribbean countries, there is a growing movement for freedom which has assumed an especially large scale and intensity in El Salvador.

North American imperialism hypocritically says that Central America and the Caribbean lie within the sphere of its "strategically vital interests." But this is an arrogant manoeuvre designed to destablize the situation in socialist Cuba, in revolutionary Nicaragua and in independent Grenada. North American imperialism criminally interferes in the affairs of El Salvador by sending advisers there and supplying it with arms and money, and it is strengthening its positions in Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica.

Nicaragua, being loyal to its principles of struggle for peace, put forward serious and important initiatives for achieving stability in the region, Corillo said: These initiatives were fully supported by the Nicaraguan working people.

"For its part, imperialism responded to this with an outburst of slander and threats against Nicaragua," the guest from Nicaragua said. "The Nicaraguan working class exposes and condemns NATO's naval exercises off the shores of Central American countries, the cruising of warships of the American fleet in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans washing our country, the concentration of fifteen hundred-CIA recruited mercenaries near the Nicaraguan frontiers, acts of sabotage at construction sites of the country, calls for using the Inter-American Treaty of Mutual Assistance for an Intervention against Sandino's homeland as well as slander and misinformation which are being spread by transnational news agencies about our revolution."

We think it should be the task of the international workers' movement to thwart the aggressive designs of imperialism against Nicaragua. Unless we do this today it may be too late tomorrow, Carillo said.

AUCCTU Secretary's Address

LD182046 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar, TASS -- All the efforts of Soviet trade unions are directed at the attainment of a dual task: while ensuring a further development of the national economy and growth of production they also show constant concern for the rights and interests of working people, for their working and living conditions, it was stated by Ivan Gladkiy, secretary of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions. He spoke tonight at the press center of the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions.

When speaking about the multifaceted activities of trade unions the AUCCTU secretary stressed that they take an active part in the drafting of plans of economic and social development. They do much to perfect the system of work remuneration and ensure the effective use of social consumption funds. These funds are spent on tuition-free education, free medical services, pensions, stipends for students, free or cut-rate vouchers to sanatoriums and holiday homes, on the upkeep of children at nurseries and kindergartens, etc. By the end of the current five-year-plan period payments from social funds estimated for a family of four will double as compared to 1970 and exceed two thousand rubles a year.

Noting the steady growth of wages in the Soviet Union the AUCCTU secretary reminded about the stability of state retail prices. Thus, prices of bread, groats, vegetable oil, fish and sugar remain on the level of 1955 while the prices of meat and dairy products have not changed for already 20 years. The state annually spends more than 25 billion roubles to sustain the stable level of these prices. Besides, the maintenance of housing and municipal services costs the state 6.5 billion roubles.

In the USSR trade unions manage state social insurance. Whereas in the previous five-year-plan period 157 billion roubles were spent on this, the figure for the current five-year-plan period is to be over 217 billion roubles.

Among the social tasks that are being solved by the trade unions none is more important than protection of the health of working people, the AUCCTU secretary stated. Trade unions have a ramified network of sanatoriums, holiday homes and pensions, tourist camps, etc. During the past five years almost 200 million working people and members of their families underwent treatment there and vacationed. Much importance in the social programme of Soviet trade unions is given to labour protection. 2.4 billion roubles were spent in 1981 on measures connected with labour protection. This sum annually grows by 5.6 percent whereas in the United States this year the Reagan administration has proposed to cut spendings on labour protection by 7 percent. Most of the housing construction in the USSR is financed by the state. Every year ten million people have their housing conditions improved. Not a single apartment in the USSR is allotted without the consent of the trade union committee.

PRAVDA Report on Opening

PM181431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 82 p 1

[TASS report: "Yesterday in the Kremlin"]

[Excerpt] It was 1100 hours. Those present greeted Comrades L.I. Brezhnev, Yu.V. Andropov, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, A.Ya. Pelshe, N.A. Tikhonov, K.U. Chernenko, P.N. Demichev, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, M.S. Solomentsev, I.V. Kapitonov, V.I. Dolgikh, M.V. Zimyanin and K.V. Rusakov with tumultuous, prolonged applause.

The 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions was opened by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev.

An honorary presidium for the congress comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, was elected unanimously and with great enthusiasm.

The leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet state are attending our congress, the AUCCTU chairman said. They were all unanimously elected delegates of the 17th Congress of Trade Unions. To tumultuous and sustained applause and on behalf of the congress delegates and guests, the speaker cordially welcomed the CPSU Central Committee Politburo members, headed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, a true son of the party and the people and an outstanding politician and statesman of the present day. The speaker also welcomed candidate members of the Politburo and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee and other leaders.

S.A. Shalayev announced that 131 delegations from 123 countries representing 160 national trade union centers and 8 international organizations had come to participate in the work of the congress of Soviet trade unions. He warmly welcomed the foreign friends and emissaries of the working class of all continents on the USSR trade unions' behalf. The participation in the congress' work by representatives of the most varied detachments of the world trade union movement attests to the existence of broad, strong and indestructible international friendly ties between the Soviet working people and their foreign class brothers. This is a vivid new demonstration of international workers' solidarity and a profound desire of working people to rally their ranks in the common struggle to curb the arms race and for democracy, national independence, social progress and peace throughout the world.

The speaker welcomed the delegation of the WFTU, the largest and most representative organization of the world working class, emissaries of the socialist countries' trade unions who, by their practical experience, show the working people of the whole world the possibility of real mass participation in the management of social development; delegations from the trade union centers from Europe, Asia, Africa, America, Australia and Oceania, who are waging a stubborn struggle against the monopolies' exploitative policy, and inflation and other social vices of capitalism; and representatives of international organizations, as well as regional trade union associations.

We reaffirm, the AUCCTU chairman said, that Soviet trade unions invariably stood and continue to stand firmly on positions of proletarian internationalism and solidarity with the working class and trade unions of other countries in the name of resolving the fundamental questions of our time in the interests of working people.

The congress' participants honored the memory of prominent figures of the international trade union movement who had died in recent years or had perished in the struggle for working people's interests with a minute's silence.

The delegates elected the congress' leading organs -- a presidium, a secretariat, a drafting commission and a credentials commission.

The agenda and order of the congress' work were approved. The following questions were submitted for the delegates' examinations:

1. Report on the AUCCTU's work and the USSR trade unions' tasks in the light of the 26th CPSU Congress decisions,
2. Central Auditing Commission's report,
3. Election of the AUCCTU,
4. Election of the Central Auditing Commission.

The floor was given to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The congress' delegates and guests stood and greeted Leonid Ilich with a tumultuous, sustained ovation.

Those present in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses listened with tremendous attention to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech "Concern for Working People and Concern for Production Are at the Center of Trade Unions' Attention." It was repeatedly interrupted by tumultuous, prolonged applause.

The congress then began to examine the first item on the agenda. AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev delivered the report entitled "Report on the AUCCTU's work and the USSR Trade Unions" Tasks in the Light of the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions."

At the afternoon session, the delegates heard the report of the trade unions' Central Auditing Commission. The report was delivered by commission chairman Ye.F. Gugina.

Discussion then began of the reports of the AUCCTU and the Central Auditing Commission.

The 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions continues its work.

PRAVDA on Shalayev Report

PM181123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 82 pp 3-4

["Abridged Account" of 16 March report to the 17th USSR Trade Unions Congress by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev: "Report on the AUCCTU's Work and the USSR Trade Unions' Tasks in the Light of the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions; Report by AUCCTU Chairman Comrade S.A. Shalayev"]

[Text] The graphic, inspiring speech delivered by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, made a profound, indelible impression on us all, the speaker stressed.

Through its entire content it directs us toward the solution of the fundamental tasks of economic and social development stemming from the 26th party congress decisions. Every clause, every thought, is pervaded with paternal concern for Soviet people's welfare and happiness. The new peace initiatives put forward by Leonid Ilich, which express our people's fine desire to preserve and strengthen peace on Earth are of truly inestimable importance for the destiny of all mankind.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech and the CPSU Central Committee greetings to our congress are a graphic new manifestation of the enormous attention which our party and its Leninist Central Committee pay to the activity of the trade unions and the enhancement of their role and significance in the country's life and Soviet society's political system. The party invariably views the trade unions as an influential social force, its reliable bulwark among the masses, a powerful means of developing democracy and enlisting the working people in the building of communism.

The fundamental theoretical and practical questions of trade unions' work at the present stage have been developed in depth in CPSU congresses' documents, party Central Committee decisions and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's works. In his speech today Leonid Ilich set fundamental, specific tasks for the trade unions for the long term. This speech lends new impetus to all trade union work and will be placed at the foundation of the activity of the AUCCTU and each trade union central committee, trade union council and trade union organization. This represents invaluable aid to the trade unions and serves as a reliable compass in their affairs.

The Communist Party is constantly concerned with expanding the rights of the trade unions and ensuring that they implement their social functions, which, are being further developed and filled with new content under the conditions of mature socialism, increasingly more fully and well. This is reflected in the USSR Constitution and in a number of legislative enactments adopted on the CPSU Central Committee's initiative in recent years. As a result, the Soviet trade unions' prestige has increased still further and their potential and real contributions to the solution of political, economic and sociocultural questions have grown significantly.

Our entire history and all modern Soviet reality convincingly confirm that party leadership is the source of the trade unions' strength and their successful activity. Our trade unions are linked to the party by indestructible ties. They have not had and do not have any goals other than those set by the Communist party. They have no interests other than those upheld by our state of all the people.

Dear Leonid Ilich! On behalf of the congress' delegates and all trade union members we assure the party Central Committee, the Politburo and you personally tha the Soviet trade unions will continue to firmly follow the party line and your instructions and wise advice and to take an active part in the struggle to implement noble communist ideals.

The Soviet people love you warmly, Leonid Ilich, as a great worker, a man of truly legendary destiny who has traveled a glorious path in life from worker to leader of our Leninist Communist Party and the great Soviet state.

We wholeheartedly wish you, Dear Leonid Ilich, good health, inexhaustible vigor and energy and great new successes in your multifaceted activity for the benefit of our great motherland, the cause of peace and friendship among the peoples and the joy and happiness of all working people, for the sake of the triumph of communism!

Five years separate us from the 16th Trade Unions Congress, S.A. Shalayev continued. This has been a period marked by a high degree of dynamism in the development of all spheres of our society's life.

In the 10th 5-Year Plan large-scale economic building plans were implemented. The country made substantial progress in the main avenues of the creation of the material and technical base of communism. The Soviet people's well-being was improved. The material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life were strengthened. Our motherland's economic and defense might increased.

Under the party's leadership an enormous amount of work has been done to further develop Soviet democracy.

The working class, kolkhoz peasantry, people's intelligentsia and entire friendly family of equal republics, peoples and ethnic groups of the land of the soviets rallied even more closely around the CPSU. They undividedly support our party's domestic and foreign policy.

The 26th CPSU Congress opened up new horizons for the party and people. The decisions it adopted, distinguished by scientific depth and a bold approach to the most complex present-day problems, contain an impressive program for the further development of socialist society for many years to come and indicate the ways to make the most efficient use of our country's economic, scientific, technical and spiritual potential. The peace program for the eighties put forward by the congress and the Soviet Union's peace-loving initiatives have become an important positive factor in international life.

The speaker noted that the ideas of the 26th congress were directly and immediately continued in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum. The Central Committee resolution and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech focused attention on the socioeconomic problems that are of determining significance for the highly efficient development of the entire national economic complex.

The year that has elapsed since the 26th CPSU Congress has shown that the impressive plans for communist building outlined by the party are being consistently implemented. The Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo are resolving the urgent problems of public and social development creatively, far-sightedly and on a scientific basis and are setting a lofty example of a Leninist style of leadership. All this is having a most beneficial effect on the moral and political atmosphere in the country and on the growth of the Soviet people's political and labor activeness and is inspiring them to new deeds and exploits for the sake fo the triumph of communism.

It was with great enthusiasm and inspiration that all Soviet people welcomed the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 60th Anniversary of the Formation of the USSR." The workers of all republics, krays and oblasts are setting fine examples of shock labor and are doing everything for the successful fulfillment of the plan for 1982 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

Our multinational motherland is powerfully advancing forward. The six victorious decades in the life of the Soviet Union are a convincing demonstration of the triumph of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy and the historic gains of socialism.

The impressive successes in communist building and the growth of our motherland's international prestige are the result of the Soviet people's inspired labor and the wise and far-sighted policy of our party and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, that outstanding party and state figure and tireless fighter for peace and communism and the working people's happiness.

Increasing the Trade Unions' Contribution to the Improvement of Social Production Efficiency

In his speech today Leonid Ilich Brezhnev quoted V.I. Lenin's well-known words about the trade unions as a school of administration, economic management and communism, expressing the essence of Lenin's concept of the trade union movement under the conditions of socialism. Over the years of Soviet power, he noted, several generations of working people have passed through this school, and with every generation concern for the growth of social production has been increasingly firmly united in the trade unions' practice with concern for each working man's working and daily living conditions, the protection of his rights and the improvement of his well-being. It is impossible to ensure the improvement of the people's welfare without proper production development.

That is why, the speaker stressed, the Soviet trade unions view concern for the further development of social production and the steady improvement of the working people's prosperity as their dual task determining the entire content of their activity.

Guided by the 26th CPSU Congress' instructions, the trade unions are directing their efforts primarily toward boosting the socialist economy and successfully implementing the main task of the 11th 5-Year Plan. As is well known, this task consists in securing the further improvement of Soviet people's well-being on the basis of the steady development of the national economy, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the economy's transition to an intensive path of development, more rational utilization of the country's production potential, all-round savings of all types of resources and improvement of work quality.

As Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed today, the arsenal of means with which the trade unions can influence social processes, the development of the economy and the masses' education is great and diverse, and we are clearly aware that these means are still being used insufficiently effectively. Our task is to restructure the trade unions' work as rapidly and vigorously as possible to comply with present-day requirements.

The main and determining thing for us is the watchword "The Economy Must Be Economical" advanced at the 26th CPSU Congress. In accordance with this slogan, the trade unions will make their production work among the masses and their organizational and educational work even more purposeful. It also determines the main demands made of the organization of socialist competition, which is a very important means of trade union influence on the development of the economy.

In the period under review the number of competition participants increased to 100 million. It has become truly nationwide, embracing all spheres of social life -- production, management, science, daily life and culture. Here competition is acquiring qualitatively new features. Today it is directed toward attaining the best national economic end results and is increasingly concentrated on the solution of the fundamental problems of production efficiency and work quality and scientific and technical progress. The ideological and moral motifs of labor rivalry are being intensified.

It may be said quite rightly that socialist competition, at the source of which the great Lenin stood, has become an inalienable and most characteristic feature of the socialist way of life. It exerts an enormous positive influence on the solution of the entire gamut of economic, social and educational tasks.

Many remarkable initiatives and undertakings are generated in the process of competition. Thus, at the very start of the 5-year plan leading Moscow and Leningrad collectives launched a competition for the ahead-of-schedule completion of their personal and team plans; leading collectives in Tyumenskaya Oblast launched a competition for the extraction of 1 million tons of oil and 1 billion cubic meters of gas a day; collectives in the construction ministries and the USSR Ministry of Light Industry launched a competition to accelerate the commissioning and startup of production capacities at light industry enterprises; the collective of the Magnitogorsk metallurgical combine launched a competition for the maximum increase in production and improvement in the quality of output with minimum capital expenditure; and the collectives of the Kotlas and Solikamsk pulp and paper combines launched competition for the economical and rational utilization of raw material, fuel and energy and other material resources.

Supporting these and other patriotic initiatives, thousands of associations and enterprises fulfilled the 1981 plans ahead of schedule. Hundreds of thousands of leading workers completed their personal targets for the first quarter of 1982 by the day of the opening of the 17th USSR Trade Unions Congress. The whole country knows the outstanding production achievements of steel workers team leader G.Ya. Gorban, machine operator I.Ya. Prokofyev, lathe operator A.I. Khorolskiy, drivers team leader P.M. Kolos, milking machine operator A.I. Chudnaya, mine workers team leader M.P. Chikh, drilling foreman V.I. Agafonov, mixed construction team leader A.D. Basov and many others.

On behalf of the congress, S.A. Shalayev cordially greeted the best sons and daughters of the heroic Soviet working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia and expressed the certainty that they will continue to serve as a fitting example in the nationwide struggle for the flourishing and strengthening of the might of our beloved motherland.

At the 26th party congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed that counterplans and other initiatives "from below to above" -- worker to team to enterprise to sector -- must be placed at the fore in socialist competition, and then these initiatives must be "coupled" to the state plan.

In the 10th 5-Year Plan the enterprise collectives that adopted counterplans sold additional output worth about R13 billion. However, in a number of sectors counterplanning is developing unsatisfactorily. This applies particularly to the machine tool building, automobile and petrochemical industries, where the number of associations and enterprises adopting counterplans has dropped in recent years. The leaders of both ministries and the relevant trade union central committees are to blame here.

Some ministries and sector trade unions are being dilatory in "coupling" counterplans and coordinating them with material and manpower resources and consumers' actual needs. Labor collectives' initiatives and proposals are frequently examined very belatedly and, indeed, not supported at all. It also happens that an enterprise collective will have fulfilled the counterplan successfully yet the ministry, with the tacit consent of the trade union central committee, refuses to reward it.

We must seek, S.A. Shalayev noted, to ensure that counterplans become increasingly widespread and become a norm of the economic life of enterprises and associations.

An important feature of the organization of competition today is that it is now being conducted under conditions where every enterprise has a firm 5-year plan broken down year by year. Therefore, socialist pledges cannot be geared only toward the fulfillment of annual plans. They must be directed toward the successful fulfillment of 5-year plans as a whole. We have this experience and it must be disseminated by every means.

With the development and mounting complexity of intersector and intrasector ties and the intensification of specialization and production sharing, the speaker noted the increasing significance of competition between related organizations, especially in installing large-scale projects and radically improving the operation of transport. Thus, considering the great national economic significance of the Urengoy-Center-Uzhgorod gas pipeline, the AUCCTU has obliged trade union organizations to take the most active part in its construction. Work is in progress here in 10 sectors simultaneously. Equipment and various machinery must arrive continuously from enterprises in many parts of the country. A coordinating council has been created to lead the competition between related collectives. It is also useful to use this experience in constructing other important projects.

Competition among related workers and the "workers' relay" movement should be further disseminated in industry, too. It is important that the conditions of competition and incentive measures should direct people toward the strictest observance of contracts discipline. Last year output worth several billion rubles that was contracted for was not delivered. In no way can this be tolerated.

Trade union central committees must examine questions of work in production among the masses, not only from the sector viewpoint but also from general state positions. Clear-cut coordination is required in their activity and it is necessary to overcome the lack of coordination, which is having an adverse effect on the development of competition among related workers. It is precisely such an intersector, comprehensive approach toward the organization of socialist competition that is particularly necessary to fulfill large-scale national economic programs.

Under present-day conditions the role of trade unions in the development of agriculture and other sectors of the agroindustrial complex is increasing. The agrarian sector's problems are constantly at the center of party and state attention and were widely reflected in the 26th CPSU Congress' decisions. As a result of the implementation of the party's agrarian policy, our agriculture has made substantial progress.

In the period under review the trade unions galvanized their work in the countryside and actively promoted a further boost in agricultural production. At the same time our contribution to the solution of the food problem must be more palpable.

As Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said today, the trade unions must seek specific ways to develop the initiative and activeness of all organizations and workers involved with food.

For this, all trade union organs, including the AUCCTU, are obliged to make an in-depth and substantive study of the processes taking place and expose shortcomings and react promptly to them.

The speaker emphasized the need to develop the competition for the on-schedule and high-quality fulfillment of the countryside's orders and to develop the competition among livestock-raising workers, following the example of Cherkasskaya Oblast agricultural workers.

There are now approximately 12 million kolkhoz members in the ranks of rural trade unions -- that is, trade union organizations unite almost all kolkhoz members. Extensive opportunities have thereby been created for strengthening the trade unions' influence on resolving questions of organizing the work, life and daily routine of the kolkhoz peasantry.

At the same time these organizations are still at the development stage. Some of them have an inadequate grasp of questions of norm setting and wages, labor safety techniques and social insurance. The Central Committee of the Agricultural Workers' Trade Union and its local organs must give more help to the trade union organizations of kolkhozes and state cooperative associations in their work. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz trade union committees should make better use of the work experience of the trade union organizations of industrial enterprises and associations.

Concern for the development of enterprises' subsidiary plots and the private plots of kolkhoz members, workers and employees is a matter of exceptional importance for trade union organs. In close contact with local organs of power they must resolve questions of the allocation of land for collective gardens and truck gardens more promptly and give citizens assistance in obtaining the necessary implements, small-scale means of mechanization and fertilizers. All these are rivulets which flow into the common stream of state and social measures leading ultimately to the resolution of the food problem.

It was most forcefully emphasized at the 26th CPSU Congresss that a thrifty attitude toward public property and the ability to make full and expedient use of everything we have so that production results grow more quickly than expenditures and so that more can be achieved by involving comparatively fewer resources in production are becoming the linchpin of economic policy.

It is very important, as Leonid Ilich Brezhnev emphasized, for every trade union and every trade union organization to translate the party's guidelines into practical actions and operate with the maximum concreteness and businesslike efficiency.

In the current 5-year period all enterprises and organizations have been set targets for saving material and energy resources. Every working person must be informed of them so that everyone saves raw materials, supplies and fuel at his workplace.

This is a truly tremendous reserve of ours. Suffice it to say that over the years of the 10th 5-Year Plan working people submitted more than 20 million suggestions for saving raw materials, metals, fuel and other supplies. Their implementation produced a saving of R18.5 billion.

The AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee and the USSR Gossnab have defined a procedure for conducting a review of the policy of thrift in the 11th 5-Year Plan. It is a matter of ensuring its high effectiveness.

In connection with the demographic situation that has taken shape in the eighties, a thrifty, economical attitude toward labor resources has special significance. Real breadth must be imparted to the introduction of valuable initiatives, the essence of which is contained in the concise but capacious formula "Not Numbers but Knowhow." This accords with the party's very important demand to ensure production growth at existing enterprises with a stable and even a smaller number of employees.

Dwelling on questions of utilizing progressive experience, the speaker emphasized that its introduction is being placed on a sound, planned basis today. The AUCCTU and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology have approved all-union methodical instructions on the procedure for studying, generalizing and introducing progressive experience, and ministries and trade union central committees have approved sector instructions. Similar measures are also being implemented in a number of regions of the country.

The implementation of the policy outlined by the party for completing the economy's transfer to a primarily intensive path of development demands the further improvement of socialist competition and the elimination of existing shortcomings in its organization.

Above all, attention must be paid to the content of competition. Its effectiveness is considerably reduced because formalism is permitted in the adoption of socialist pledges. It is frequently possible to encounter cases where pledges are pitched too low and the criteria for assessing results are excessively complex. Thus, in accordance with the competition terms approved by the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry and the Food Industry Workers' Trade Union Central Committee, enterprises and organizations submit data on 50 indicators. I think that, given such terms, it is hard not only for the competition participants but also for its organizers to determine the winners.

In certain labor collectives the greatest activeness in organizing competition is displayed only at the stages of adopting socialist pledges and summing up the results, and proper organizational work is not carried out the rest of the time.

Competition organizers sometimes notice its front-runners and, more rarely, the laggards, but they "have no time" for the rest of the participants, as the saying goes.

The competition cause is seriously harmed by instances where individual trade union central committees -- like, for example, those of the motor vehicle, tractor and agricultural machine building workers and coal industry workers -- in conjunction with the ministries, allow class places to be awarded on the basis of all-union socialist competition results to collectives that do not fulfill the plans for introducing new equipment, saving material resources and commissioning social and consumer service projects.

Summing up what I have said, I would like to point out that the organization of socialist competition is not only an important but also a complex task. It is not simply a social assignment for an economic leader or trade union worker but their duty and obligation, and it is necessary to treat competition organization professionally and with a high degree of responsibility.

An all-union socialist competition has now been organized for the successful fulfillment of targeted comprehensive scientific and technical programs. The elaboration and implementation of personal creative plans must become an effective means of developing the activeness of scientific workers, engineers and technicians. However, it has to be admitted that many trade union committees still do not tackle the organization of this work in a skilled manner.

It is important to unite the collectives of scientific research institutes, design organizations and industrial enterprises by means of mutual pledges, to combine scientific research and planning and design work more closely with production and to ensure the unbreakable alliance of creative labor. Above all this applies to trade unions operating in machine-building sectors and enterprises.

Speaking of solving the problem of reducing manual labor, particularly heavy labor, the speaker emphasized that it is of not only economic but also great social importance. Recently trade union organizations have somewhat stepped up their attention toward resolving it. At the same time, almost half the workers in physical production are still employed in manual operations at present. Whereas the labor of 74 percent of workers has been mechanized in basic production, only 29 percent has been mechanized in auxiliary production. Despite this, 80 percent of all funds being allocated to labor mechnization are still being directed into basic production and only 20 percent into auxiliary production, although it is right here that 3 times as many people can be released for the same expenditure. It is clearly impossible to agree with such an approach to resolving this problem.

We are now completing the elaboration of a targeted comprehensive program for reducing manual labor in the national economy, which provides for the pace of this work to be speeded up approximately 3-4 times. It is important that trade union central committees and councils take an active part in formulating and implementing similar programs for sectors and regions of the country.

It was and still is the trade unions' direct and immediate task to develop the working people's scientific and technical creativity in every possible way. In the last 5-year plan the introduction of suggestions of inventors and rationalizers produced a hypothetical saving of more than R29 billion -- 50 percent more than in the previous period. However, the trade unions are still not managing to utilize their great potential in this matter. The impressive figures for membership of scientific and technical societies and the All-Union Society of Inventors and Rationalizers and the amounts saved sometimes conceal weak purposefulness in work, bad coordination and shallowness of subject matter. In many organizations the results of the work itself are still measured chiefly in terms of the number of recommendations and the number of conferences, reviews and competitions held, and not in terms of the concrete contribution to fulfilling the plans for new equipment and resolving urgent scientific and technical problems.

In the last 5-year plan, the speaker continued, the AUCCTU, in conjunction with state and economic organs, sought to resolve questions of scientific labor organization in a more systematic and comprehensive manner. Sector and intersector requirements and other normative materials for scientific labor organization have been formulated and approved. They are obligatory in the planning of enterprises, technological processes and equipment. With the AUCCTU's participation, the USSR Gosplan and the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, have set 5-year targets for scientific labor organization for every sector and republic. Their realization will make it possible to reduce the national economy's need for labor resources by 3.9 million people.

Analyzing the development of the team form of organization and stimulating labor, S.A. Shalayev pointed out that approximately 1/2 of all industrial workers are now united in teams.

However, there are still few teams working to a unified job contract and using the coefficient of labor participation when determining wages. Insufficient attention is devoted to creating comprehensive and multiple-skill teams. Little more than 1/3 of construction teams work with full financial autonomy. All trade union organs -- from factory and plant or local committees to the AUCCTU -- must draw serious practical conclusions and ensure that the team form of labor organization really becomes the main one in the current 5-year plan.

The party consistently pursues a policy of extending the rights of working people and their trade union organizations in production management.

The work of standing production conferences is of great significance from this viewpoint, and businesslike efficiency, competence and the ability to express the collective opinion are characteristic of many of them. In such cases the management, too, needs to consult the standing production conference. For example, implementation of the proposals of the standing production conference at Voronezh's M.I. Kalinin Forging and Pressing Equipment Production Association made it possible to increase production and resolve this task by means of internal reserves, without commissioning new capacity. Interesting experience has been accumulated at the 50-Letiye Kirgizskoy SSR Instrument-Making Plant.

However, far from full use is being made of the potential of production conferences and other forms of involving working people in production management. There are many reasons for this. In some cases it is an agenda that does not excite the collective, in others it is the poor preparation of questions for discussion and in yet others it is the failure to fulfill earlier adopted resolutions and recommendations. It can happen that questions on which the management has already made its own decision are submitted for discussion and consultation with the collective. This reduces the working people's interest and activeness, and therefore such instances are quite inadmissible.

The role and significance of standing production conferences are increasing considerably in connection with the introduction of the new economic machinery and the broadening of enterprises' independence. Under modern conditions it is impossible to manage successfully without skillfully combining the principle of one-man management with reliance on the collective mind and on the strength and authority of public opinion.

In our view -- and this is confirmed by local suggestions -- the range of questions in the life of labor collectives on which the management makes decisions only after they have been discussed at standing production conference sessions should be more clearly defined.

It is also important that ministries and trade union central committees should direct the activities of standing production conferences toward resolving sector problems in which the initiatives and questing of collectives can be particularly useful.

Thus, the impressive plans for further developing the economy set trade unions complex new tasks. Their essence is to concentrate the attention and efforts of labor collectives on successfully fulfilling the 11th 5-year Plan and increasing the trade unions' contribution to raising social production efficiency. The party urges us to do precisely this, and precisely this must constitute the core of the trade unions' production and economic activity.

Concern for Man, His Needs and Requirements Is the Trade Unions' Important Task

At the 26th CPSU Congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev emphasized that concrete concern for the concrete person and his needs and requirements is the beginning and end of our economic policy. This is precisely why the economy is increasingly being oriented toward realizing tasks connected with improving the people's living conditions.

During the years of the 10th 5-year plan, the speaker pointed out, a new step was taken in resolving social problems. Some R334 billion more than in the previous 5-year period was channeled from national income into raising the people's living standards. Real per capita incomes increased 18 percent and doubled in comparison with 1965.

During the seventies large-scale measures were implemented in the sphere of wages -- the chief source of the growth in real incomes. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU resolutions, new wage rates and salaries were introduced for more than 100 million workers and employees.

The housing construction program was fulfilled at a fast pace. In the 10th 5-year plan one in five of the country's inhabitants improved his housing conditions.

The successes achieved served as the material basis for enshrining in the new USSR Constitution a right of vital importance to man -- the right of housing. This right is not provided for in the legislation of a single capitalist country.

All this convincingly confirms that the more mature our society becomes, the more attention we can and must devote to the working people's everyday needs -- housing, nutritution, the services sphere, public health and education - to everything that determines both a person's well-being and his mood.

Trade unions took an active part in elaborating and implementing measures to enhance the people's well-being. The AUCCTU and trade union committees and councils carried out this work in close cooperation with Soviet and state organs.

The social program elaborated with trade union participation for the 11th 5-Year Plan includes a system of measures aimed at improving working conditions, increasing real incomes and public consumption, resolving the food and housing problems, improving the demographic situation, increasing free time and making efficient use of it and safeguarding the environment.

It is on precisely these main avenues of the social program that trade unions concentrate their attention.

The implementation of measures to improve earnings and to make rational use of the assets of social consumption funds is of great significance. As is known, in the current 5-year plan the average monthly wage for workers and employees will increase 14.5 percent and exceed R193. The volume of social consumption funds will increase 23 percent. By the end of the 5-year plan the sum total of payments and concessions out of these funds will stand at more than R2,000 a year per family of four. As the conditions are created, it is proposed to increase the wage rated and salaries of workers and employees, primarily in production sectors -- particularly in raw material and fuel and energy sectors -- construction and railroad transport. This work has already begun. A majority of coal industry workers have already received a substantial wage rise. The specific schedule for introducing the new wage rates and salaries by regions and other sectors will be established in annual plans.

Guidelines for imporving the wage rate system have been alaborated in conjunction with the trade unions. The aim is, on the one hand, to ensure greater unity in earnings for workers doing identical work and, on the other hand, to ensure a more differentiated approach to earnings, depending on the complexity, responsibility and intensiveness of work.

The measures now being implemented to improve the economic machinery make provisions for the formation of wage and economic incentive funds at enterprises, depending on production efficiency indicators. Trade union committees should strive to ensure that these funds are utilized strictly for the proper purpose.

I should like to stress that wages must be more closely linked with end results so as to reflect each worker's personal contribution to the common cause as accurately as possible. Otherwise it is impossible to put into practice a requirement that everyone understands but that is unfortunately not always observed -- that wages must be earned. It is necessary to resolutely eliminate instances of exaggerating the volume of work and obtaining undeserved rewards and of the tendency for earnings to be leveled out.

The improvement of the people's living standard depends not only on increasing money incomes but also on how the population's demand for goods and services is satisfied. During the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans there was a notable increase in the level of consumption and the supply of cultural and consumer goods to the population. But, as is known, the demand for a whole series of goods is not fully satisfied, nor has there been any great improvement in their quality.

The AUCCTU and local trade union organs have become more concerned with questions of increasing the production of goods, extending their range and improving their quality.

At the same time it should be admitted frankly that concern for these questions is still at a low level at many enterprises and in a number of sectors. Trade union organs must display a more persistent, principled approach in resolving them and constantly channel labor collectives' creative initiative into making maximum use of available reserves and local potential for increasing production of the high quality goods the population needs.

One topical problem we are working on, the speaker said, is to make people's work not only more productive but also more meaningful, interesting and creative. In the period under review more than R11 billion was spent just on labor protection measures provided for in collective agreements. This is nearly 50 percent more than in the previous 5-year period.

At the 16th trade unions congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev put forward the task of moving "From Safety Techniques to Safe Technology." On the AUCCTU's suggestion a labor safety standards system was set up in the country, on the basis of which work has been launched to modernize existing equipment.

All the same, the labor protection situation cannot be regarded as good in a number of sectors. At many enterprises there are serious shortcomings in the provision of protective clothing, protective footwear and individual means of protection for working people. This was discussed urgently and rightly at report and election conferences and sector congresses.

It is our urgent demand that the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Gossnab, manufacturing ministries and, first and foremost, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry elaborate and implement measures to radically improve the provision of protective clothing and individual means of protection for working people. All ministries and departments must tackle this question in a more concrete, committed way.

It should be admitted that in resolving questions of improving working conditions the AUCCTU and trade union councils and central committees do not fully exploit their tremendous rights and potential. We have 4 million public inspectors of labor protection and more than 6,000 permanent technical inspectors. That is a great force, and it must operate as actively as possible.

The state has granted the trade unions broad rights and potential for representing the working people's legitimate interests and defending their rights in the event of violations. Every year the observance of labor laws is checked at tens of thousands of enterprises. Economic leaders who have tolerated crude violations of working people's rights or displayed a bureaucratic approach have incurred administrative and disciplinary penalties, and some of them have been relieved of their posts at the trade unions' request.

Trade union committees and councils, the trade union aktiv and legal and technical labor inspectors must step up the monitoring of the observance of the labor rights of workers, employees and kolkhoz members, react more sharply to any deviations from the laws and display high exactingness, a principled approach and, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, implacability in all cases where it is a question of defending a person's labor rights.

Dwelling on questions of social insurance, S.A. Shalayev noted that the Soviet state's expenditure on this and on pension provision increased by approximately 50 percent in the period under review.

There has been an expansion in pension concessions for Great Patriotic War invalids and families of men who died at the front and an improvement in material and domestic provision for people who took part in the war. In the main, the important sociopolitical task of bringing the levels of social insurance for kolkhoz members and workers and employees at state enterprises closer together has also been resolved.

Among other measures implemented during the period under review, I would like to note the improvement in pension provisions for workers in the coal, shale and metallurgical industry and the extension of concessionary procedures for paying pensions to a number of categories of working pensioners.

During the 5-year plan the average pension paid to pensioners continuing to work increased by 28 percent. The level of financial allowances for temporary inability to work increased by 20 percent.

At the same time there are still certain problems in the trade unions' work in the social insurance sphere. I refer first and foremost to the careful expenditure of the tremendous state resources allocated for social insurance. This year alone they amount to R40 billion. The trade unions, having the right to dispose of such a budget, must carry out this task thriftily and carefully.

In the coming period we must considerably step up the attentiveness of all trade union organs and all our components, from top to bottom, toward questions of preventing general and occupational sickness among workers, kolkhoz members and employees.

While mentioning successes in health care, the speaker noted at the same time that losses of working time resulting from temporary inability to work remain high and that there are instances of inattentiveness by medical personnel to patients and violations of the law and of professional duty. Health care he said, must be linked as closely as possible to production and the effectiveness of preventive work must be increased.

One important direction in the trade unions' work in protecting and strengthening the working people's health is the organization of sanatorium and spa treatment, leisure and tourism. In the period under review new trade union health resorts and tourist institutions with 130,000 places were commissioned. The proportionate participation by ministries and departments in erecting these projects doubled. There are nearly 800,000 places in sanatoriums and preventive clinics today. The network of sanatoriums for the treatment of parents with children has grown and the number of families taking holidays has doubled.

Our potential could be even greater if every year construction workers fully used the resources allocated for these purposes. We hope the construction ministries concerned will draw their own conclusions from this criticism and strictly observe schedules for the erection of trade union sanatoriums and their commissioning, particularly at the country's most important all-union resorts, in the RSFSR's Non-Chernozem Zone and in regions of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East.

Serious attention should be devoted to questions of improving medical, cultural and consumer services at resorts and tourist bases. The central councils for the management of trade union health resorts and for tourism and excursions must do everything possible to ensure that attentiveness toward the person and the creation of good conditions for treatment and leisure form the main content of reality at these institutions.

This is made incumbent on all of us by the fundamentally important resolutions adopted recently by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU on further improving sanatorium and resort treatment, leisure and tourism, which define a whole range of measures for developing and improving the work of trade union sanatoriums.

The development of the network of preventive sanatoriums, where even now more than 3 million people a year build up their health, merits great attention. But certain ministries and trade union organs are in no hurry to create preventive institutions. Above all this applies to sectors such as the motor vehicle industry and transport and agricultural machine building.

Speaking of improving working conditions, the speaker dwelt in detail on questions of improving the organization of public catering and consumer services and improving the working and living conditions of working women.

A wide range of measures to create the conditions for working women to combine their professional activity more effectively with raising children is planned for the eighties. These measures have met with great approval everywhere.

In the first 3 years of the current 5-year plan alone, the material situation for more than 4,5 million families with children will be improved. The AUCCTU chairman criticized the ministries of the oil, light, food and coal industries for unsatisfactory work in constructing children's preschool institutions.

Whatever new heights we may scale on the path of communist building, we must always remember those who started to build the new life who remain within our system today. I am referring to labor veterans. There are people approaching or over pensionable age in every labor collective. It is noteworthy that the veterans themselves are in no hurry to give up their socially useful labor.

In many collectives much is done to prolong veterans' working life, and that is correct. Offering an old cadre worker or specialist a task within his powers in good time, reviewing work loads, not bypassing him in allocating housing, gardening plots or leisure passes and listening sensitively to his wise advice and suggestions -- this constitutes respect for the veteran and concrete concern for him.

One more question: For one reason or another many elderly people want to move into special old people's homes in their declining years, but in a number of regions there are still not enough of these institutions. That is something for the AUCCTU, trade union organizations and economic organs to think about. Why not build such homes not only out of state resources but by pooling the resources available to enterprises from the fund for sociocultural measures and housing construction? Incidentally, these institutions could be called by a different name -- say, a home for labor veterans. The trade unions, the USSR Gosplan, ministries and social security organs should think about this. The best possible solutions must be found, since ultimately what we are talking about is that most important thing -- concern for the working person.

Consistently following a course of doing everything possible to improve the people's living standard, the Communist Party constantly devotes attention to improving Soviet people's housing conditions. In the current 5-year period about 50 million people will gain improved housing conditions.

Nonetheless, as you know, the housing problem is still not a simple one. In this connection, as Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted at the 26th CPSU Congress, special attentiveness, objectivity and honesty are necessary in allocating housing. This is the direct concern of trade union organizations. They must resolutely stop any violations in this matter and oppose any attempts to improve housing conditions without justification or to obtain housing out of turn or to excess.

Trade unions must persistently strive to ensure that housing is constructed not only on schedule and to a high standard but on a comprehensive basis, incorporating kindergartens, creches and other sociocultural facilities. It is also necessary to promote in every way the development of cooperative and individual housing construction.

Questions of improving trade and consumer services must also be constantly in the trade unions' field of vision, since this is directly connected with satisfying the working people's daily needs. The trade unions are called upon, together with workers in the trade and consumer sphere, to seek improvement in the level and standard of services to the population, expansion in types of services and the introduction of forms of service that are more convenient for people.

Our workers' control system can and must also play a substantial part in improving the work of trade and public catering enterprises and consumer services and eradicating existing shortcomings and violations. The AUCCTU is adopting measures to extend its functions and powers and strengthen its collaboration with people's control organs.

The role of social factors in the development of social production and in people's lives is now increasing daily. These factors do much to determine a person's attitude to labor, the atmosphere in the collective and its stability and creative potential. That is why in day-to-day work greater attention must be devoted to the comprehensive resolution of the problems of labor collectives' lives on the basis of collective contracts and social development plans.

Questions of the elaboration and implementation of collective contracts have recently been comprehensively discussed at plenums of trade union central committees and councils and the course of their fulfillment is now examined increasingly frequently at trade union conferences and workers' meetings. On the basis of a proposal from the trade unions, state accountability for the fulfillment of collective contracts was introduced. As a result, at many enterprises the measures they envisage have begun to be implemented much better. But we must not slacken our work in this direction -- we must continue to improve it in every way.

This applies equally to plans for the social development of labor collectives. It is a vital matter for all trade union organizations to actively participate in their elaboration and implementation.

The AUCCTU considers it necessary to report to the congress that in the course of reports and elections, proposals were put forward with a view to increasing the role and significance of collective contracts by reviving the practice of their registration with higher economic and trade union bodies. Wishes were also expressed for trade union central committees to conclude agreements with ministries on questions of improving working people's working, living and leisure conditions, taking collective contracts into account. In our opinion these proposals merit serious attention.

All that is done in our country to improve the Soviet people's life, the speaker stressed, is done in accordance with the party's plans and under its direct leadership. On behalf of the millions-strong army of workers, kolkhoz members and people's intelligentsia, he expressed cordial gratitude to the CPSU, its Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev for their tireless concern for working people.

Molding an Active Builder of Communism -- The Trade Unions' Most Important Task

Lenin's concept of the trade unions' role as a school of communism incorporates the task of inculcating communist awareness in people in inseparable association with their labor for the sake of society.

On this basis, the AUCCTU chairman said, trade union organizations have sought to comprehensively resolve questions of the labor, political and moral education of the broad masses of working people and to tirelessly improve their forms and methods. Here they have been guided by the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work."

Under the leadership of party organizations, trade union committees have sought by every means at their disposal to help form the qualities of an active builder of communism, and to establish profound ideological convictions in every working person and to improve the Soviet citizens' political culture.

The real results of this work are manifested above all in the breadth of socialist competition and the movement for a communist attitude to labor. It is the duty of all trade union organs to study the experience and enrich the practice of this movement and more accurately define its participants' concrete targets.

Schools of communist labor must be of great significance in shaping an active life stance in the working people. More than 14 million people are now studying at these schools. The AUCCTU has approved a new program making provision for strengthening the ideological and moral education of workers, extending their outlook and teaching them leading methods and a thirfty attitude toward social production.

The high prestige these schools have earned among workers means that their network must be extended still more widely and still more students drawn in.

The mentors' movement has been further developed. Now about 3 million of the best representatives of the working class and kolkhoz peasantry generously impart their knowledge, skill and experience of life to young people.

Many production front-runners and labor veterans work in vocational and technical schools. Among them are congress delegates double Heroes of Socialist Labor Afanasiy Prokofyevich Mikhalev and Vasiliy Aleksandrovich Smirnov. Young people learn the best work habits and are brought up in the glorious traditions of the working class on the basis of their example and that of thousands more innovators.

Purposeful work by trade unions to further improve the cultural and technical standard of all categories of working people has a great role to play in the solution of problems of economic and social development.

Economic, scientific and technical propaganda expanded considerably during the period under review. The work of houses and palaces of culture and technology embraces tens of thousands of worker-innovators, designers, engineers and technicians. A lot of attention has been devoted to developing a network of these institutions in Siberia and the Far East.

Some 34 million workers and kolkhoz members are now involved in economic education. They are learning how to uncover production reserves and analyze and acquire the skills of socialist management.

In the period under review the AUCCTU has constantly urged trade unions to make an all-round contribution in their educational work to strengthening labor discipline and improving organization and order.

The overwhelming majority of Soviet people work conscientiously and enthusiastically, endeavoring to rationally utilize every working minute. But, unfortunately, there are instances of a different kind. Absenteeism and various violations of labor discipline are still common at a number of enterprises. In order to eradicate such phenomena we must make better use of the force of public opinion and measures of moral and material influence, step up work with individuals, get through to every person and enhance the responsibility of foremen, team leaders and trade union group organizers for this. In this connection the initiative of Leningrad and Kazakhstan workers who launched the "No Violators of Discipline and Public Order in the Trade Union Group" movement deserves every support.

Having stressed the great importance of the wise use of free time in terms of a person's education and the molding of a comprehensively developed individual, S.A. Shalayev noted that working people have thousands of theaters, concert halls and museums and over 270,000 various cultural enlightenment establishments. During the period under review more than 600 modern trade union palaces and houses of culture were constructed.

Nevertheless, in some places the trade unions' massive potential for organizing recreation for the working man is not always efficiently exploited. Trade union councils and committees must deal constantly with specific matters relating to the organization of working people's leisure and more closely coordinate their efforts with Soviet and Komsomol organizations, while paying attention to the ideological content of the measures being carried out. Trade union councils and committees must be especially concerned to improve cultural services for rural workers.

Recent years have been characterized by the further development of a phenomenon typical of socialist society, a phenomenon succinctly described by the people as the alliance of art and labor. Creative meetings between writers, artists and performers and working people have become regular events. An important part is played by the competition for the best prose work on the Soviet working class, run by the AUCCTU and the USSR writers union. Cultural patronage work is expanding in the countryside.

The speaker dwelt in detail on questions relating to the development of physical education and sport.

Improving Organizational Work and Increasing Its Effectiveness

Constant attention by the Communist Party to the affairs and preoccupations of Soviet trade unions creates the most favorable conditions for their comprehensive strengthening and development. Since the 16th congress 18 million people have joined Soviet trade unions, and the membership now stands at 130 million. The working class continues to play the leading role in the trade unions. Occupying key positions in the country's economic and social transformation, the working class exercises a determining influence on all aspects of the trade unions' life and activity.

The trade union reports and elections on the eve of the congress clearly demonstrated the working people's heightened activity in social life. Suffice it to say that more than 20 million people spoke in the discussions of accountability reports.

During the report and election campaign there was a discussion of measures to implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum. In a businesslike atmosphere of wide-ranging criticism and self-criticism an examination was conducted of trade union organ activity at all levels, their work experience was generalized and specific proposals were made to eliminate shortcomings. Many of the proposals were cranked into the AUCCTU's preparations for the 17th Trade Union Congress.

Noting the great importance of primary organizations' work in all the many aspects of trade union activity, the speaker reported that the country now has over 750,000 primary and around 570,000 shop trade union organizations and more than 3 million trade union groups. The aktiv is constantly growing. Virtually 50 percent of trade union members have a social assignment. This is a major force that the trade unions use to exert their influence on all elements in labor collectives.

Proceeding from the decisions of the 16th USSR Trade Union Congress, the AUCCTU and trade union central committees and councils paid greater attention to primary organizations' work and strove to enhance their role in production and social life. The regulations on the rights of factory and plant or local committees were extended to kolkhoz trade union committees. On the initiative of the AUCCTU the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium also extended them to cover trade union organizers.

The creation of unified trade union organizations in production, science-and-production and construction and installation associations continued in connection with changes in the structure of national economic management.

The effectiveness of organizational work depends to a significant extent on the activeness of trade union organs and their ability to utilize accumulated experience. In the period under review trade union committees and councils began to operate more vigorously and to display greater initiative and persistence in the solution of various questions. One decisive condition for successfully activity by trade unions is their close link with soviets, people's control organs and the Komsomol.

The diverse and complex tasks facing the trade unions, S.A. Shalayev continued, make bigger demands on trade union cadres. Obviously, there should be no element of banality or formalism in work with people. Today's trade union worker must have mastered the art of organizational and political work, must understand the subtlest elements of education and must give people a clear picture of the significance of events that are taking place and mobilize them to specific, real deeds.

In order to successfully perform their functions in today's conditions, trade union workers must have a fine grasp of questions relating to production, economic, labor and pay norms and have a basic knowledge of labor legislation, social security and labor protection.

All this compels us to display constant concern for widening the outlook of trade union workers and activists and teaching them the art of organizational and educational work.

Work with working people's letters and comments is an important means of strengthening trade unions' ties with the masses and studying and recording public opinion and people's feelings and needs. In the past 5 years the AUCCTU and trade union councils and committees have received more than 1.8 million letters. Attaching great importance to this area of work, the 13th AUCCTU Plenum examined the question of trade unions' work with working people's letters and suggestions in accordance with the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress. Similar matters have been discussed by plenums of many trade unions central committee and councils.

At the same time it should be said that by no means everywhere are trade union organs working persistently and successfully enough on the solution of matters of concern to working people that they raise in their letters and complaints. Indeed it is a fact that more than half of the working people's letters received by some oblast trade unions have been passed on for scrutiny by superior bodies.

The timely examination of letters and comments, the adoption of the necessary measures on them and regular consultations with working people are an important part of our trade union work.

The congress has to examine the question of partially amending and supplementing the USSR trade union rules. First of all, when defining our functions and tasks full cognizance must be taken of the 26th CPSU Congress guidelines. A number of standard rules must also be brought into conformity with the new USSR Constitution and other legislative enactments.

An exchange of trade union cards is to take place after the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress.

Struggling for Peace and Developing Working People's International Class Solidarity

Together with the rest of our people, the Soviet trade unions warmly approve and support the CPSU's Leninist peace-loving policy. They see it as their paramount duty to comprehensively promote its implementation. In their international activity the Soviet trade unions are focusing their efforts on the struggle for the cohesion of all detachments of the workers movement who support peace, democracy and social progress and on stepping up working people's acts of solidarity in defense of peace and against the arms race whipped up by imperialism.

Recent years have seen a sharp exacerbation of the world situation and an increase in the aggressiveness of imperialism, American imperialism above all. In their desire to halt revolutionary social processes and reverse detente, the militarist forces have set about replenishing their arsenals of weapons at an unprecedented rate and have launched a massive ideological offensive against socialism.

Imperialism and its henchmen are trying to push trade unions onto the path of a resumption of the cold war in the international trade union movement, to weaken working people's solidarity and to set trade unions in the capitalist countries against those in the socialist countries.

However, despite the complexity of the situation, the fundamental trand of world trade union movement development remains the further strengthening of its class positions, the growth of the working masses' political activeness -- above all in the antiwar struggle -- and the widening of cooperation among trade unions of different political orientations. The historical responsibility of the working class, working people and the international trade union movement for the destiny of human civilization is growing.

At the 26th CPSU Congress Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed: "The defense of peace is currently the most important international task for our party, our people and all peoples of the world."

This appeal met with sympathy and a very broad response among the working masses on all continents. The arms race is imposed by U.S. militarist circles is incompatible with working people's vital interests. It jeopardizes, increasingly with each passing day, the main human right -- the right to life.

All USSR trade union activity is inseparable from the struggle for peace and the peoples' security. In its entire content and essence it accords with the peace program for the eighties elaborated by our party. The creator of this program is Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. With his inherent energy and wisdom he is tirelessly struggling for its implementation.

Soviet people and all progressive mankind express sincere, heartfelt thanks to Leonid Ilich for his titanic labor to preserve peace and the peoples' security.

Soviet trade unions have ties with trade unions in 145 socialist, liberated and capitalist countries. In the past 5 years more than 4,600 trade union and workers delegations have been received in the USSR and over 3,700 Soviet trade union delegations traveled abroad.

Our relations with socialist community countries' trade unions are friendly and truly fraternal. They are being implemented at all levels and affect practically all spheres of trade union activity. The broad worker masses are involved in cooperation. We exchange experience on very important questions of socialist building and borrow the most effective forms and methods of work from one another. International socialist competition is developing fruitfully.

The coordinated efforts of socialist countries' trade union centers promote the cohesion of the international trade union movement on a class basis. True to their international duty, Soviet trade unions are firmly supporting working people and trade unions in Vietnam, Cuba and Laos in their struggle against the forces of imperialism and hegemonism. We exprssed full solidarity with the Korean people, who resolutely advocate the peaceful, democratic reunification of their homeland.

We assess the events in Poland from positions of socialist internationalism. Their development has shown that internal antisocialist elements connected with imperialist subversive centers posed a real threat of a counterrevolutionary coup and took the country to the brink of national disaster. Imperialist circles in the United States and other capitalist countries continue to interfere in the sovereign state's internal affairs. Soviet trade unions fully approve the steps being taken in Poland to normalize eocnomic and social life and support the efforts to strengthen socialist gains.

From our congress platform permit me to assure the Polish working people upholding socialist in their country that the Soviet trade unions will continue to give the fraternal Polish people international assistance and support.

Talking about cooperation with the trade unions of foreign states, the speaker stressed that Soviet trade unions advocate the establishment and development of ties and cooperation with all working people and trade unions.

Soviet trade unions attach great importance to participation in the acitivity of the WFTU -- the center uniting the class forces of the international trade union movement and the authoritative representative of the interests of more than 200 million working people. The 10th world congress of trade unions, held in Havana last month, reaffirmed the WFTU's loyalty to the interests of the broadest working masses and its consistency in pursuing a firm class line.

The documents and resolutions adopted by the 10th world congress provide working people and trade unions of all orientations with a broad program of struggle for their rights and interests, against the antipopular policy of the transnational monopolies, against unemployment and inflation and for peace, democracy and social progress.

The task of averting a world thermonuclear holocaust, which demands the further activation of mass antiwar actions by working people, quite rightly lies at the center of this program, together with the socioeconomic issues.

True to their class, international duty, the Soviet trade unions will continue to resolutely and consistently oppose the forces of war and militarism and advocate the strengthening of peace and cessation of the arms race and the deepening and improvement of fraternal collaboration with the trade unions of the socialist community countries. They will give all-round support to the capitalist countries' trade unions' struggle against oppression by the monopolies and for democracy and social progress, will give internationalist assistance to the trade unions of liberated countries in their struggle to strengthen their political and economic independence and solidarity with fighters against tyrannical regimes and racism and will consistently defend the victims of anti-trade union repression.

Soviet trade unions will explain to the masses the significance of real socialism in the struggle to preserve and strengthen peace and will resolutely oppose reaction's attempts to push certain detachments of the trade union movement into positions of anti-Sovietism and anticommunism. They will pursue a course toward developing ties and cooperation among trade unions of different orientations, uniting the ranks of the international workers movement and achieving trade unions' united action on a class, anti-imperialist basis.

Guided by Lenin's immortal teaching, Soviet trade unions will continue to unswervingly uphold the ideas of proletarian internationalism and implement the principles of international workers solidarity.

In conclusion, S.A. Shalayev said:

From the party, its Leninist Central Committee and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev trade unions learn how to show untiring concern for the working person and to devote their activity to serving our people.

Whatever matters we deal with and whatever problems of production, economic, social or mass cultural work we tackle, it is all ultimately in the name of the working person.

Fully shaping and wholeheartedly supporting the Communist Party's policy and operating under the wise leadership of the Leninist Central Committee headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, Soviet trade unions will continue to move steadily along the path of building communism and to work constantly for the good of the people and for the prosperity of our socialist homeland.

(S.A. Shalayev's report was listened to attentively and repeatedly punctuated by applause.)

Report on Continuing Debate

LD181328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 18 Mar 82

[Text] The 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions continues its discussion of the review reports of the AUCCTU and the Central Auditing Commission. In considering the results of trade union activity and the prospects for their work, the delegates refer to the speech made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the congress. They see it as a broad program for the perfection of socialist democracy and the participation of trade unions in solving the most important tasks of the country's socioeconomic development.

This was said today by a Leningrad worker; Hero of Socialist Labor (Prokofyev); Mosashvili, chairman of the Council of Trade Unions of Georgia; (Dubkov), chairman of the Khabarovskiy Kray Council of Trade Unions; (Rudenko), a stock farmer from the Rostov Pobeda Kolkhoz; and other delegates.

Today the 17th AUCCTU Congress greeted representatives of pupils in vocational-technical colleges. At the evening session of the congress, which begins at 1600, debate on the review reports of the AUCCTU and the Central Auditing Commission will be continued.

LIDIN VIEWS ELECTORS' MANDATE OVER SOVIETS

LD152314 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 15 Mar 82

[By TASS commentator Petr Lidin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Mar, TASS -- Sessions of local soviets are held all over the Soviet Union. They sum up the results of the work of the deputies to implement the mandate of the electors. More than two years ago during the latest elections to local soviets, the deputies were given altogether 796 thousand mandates from the electors. The sessions of soviets show that almost all of them have been implemented. This means, specifically, that over and above plans, new schools and hospitals, clubs and stores, roads and electric transmission lines were built on the demand of the population in towns and rural areas, many other things were done to improve the servicing, to create more comforts for people.

The Constitution of the USSR stipulates that electors give mandates to their deputies. The mandates of the electors determine largely the programme of the activities of the deputies. The mandates which are a sort of collective instructions to deputies are stated, discussed and adopted at election meetings.

The electors control the implementation of the mandates. Under the USSR Constitution every deputy of local soviet must report on their work to the voters twice a year. Besides that, special sessions of soviets are held to examine the implementation of the mandates.

If a deputy did not live up to the expectations of the voters, he can be recalled from the soviet before his term is over. Over two years of the work of the present local soviets, the voters exercized this right many times and recalled more than 400 people. This figure is not large in view of the fact that altogether 2,200 thousand deputies have been elected to the soviets.

According to the Soviet Constitution, the term of work of local soviets is two and a half years. This means that the elections to more than 50 thousand local government bodies -- soviets of people's deputies of villages, settlements, districts, cities, regions and territories -- will be held this summer.

DEATH OF 'OUTSTANDING' KOLKHOZ CHAIRMAN NOTED

PM181123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 82 p 6

[Unattributed obituary of Ivan Mikhaylovich Semenov]

[Excerpts] Ivan Mikhaylovich Semenov, an outstanding organizer of kolkhoz production in our country, hero of socialist labor, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, deputy chairman of the Union Council of Kolkhozes, member of the Tulskiy Obkom and chairman of the Order of Lenin Novaya Zhizn Kolkhoz, Shchekinskiy Rayon, Tuslakaya Oblast, died 9 March 1982 after a prolonged and serious illness.

[Signed] M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Kuznetsov, M.S. Solomentsev, I.V. Kapitonov, Z.N. Nuriyev, V.A. Karlov, V.K. Mesyats, N.F. Yavilyev, L.I. Khitrun, A.A. Yezhevskiy, L.B. Yermin, I.F. Shkuratov, L.Ya. Florentyev, I.Kh. Yunak, N.T. Sinegubov, V.Z. Tur, I.S. Kukhara, P.A. Malinina, A.V. Gitalov, G.I. Tkachuk, V.M. Kalachik, V.K. Zagidova, M.Kh. Savchencko.

UKRAINIAN PRESIDIUM VIEWS RAYONS' WORK IN 1981

WA012230 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 28 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] A Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet session was held 27 January under the chairmanship of A.F. Vatchenko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The participants honored the memory of M.A. Suslov, prominent figure of the Communist Party, the Soviet state and the international communist movement, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and twice Hero of Socialist Labor, with a minute's silence.

The presidium studied the results of the work of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet and its bodies in 1981 and adopted a corresponding decree.

The question of the organizational work of the soviets of Vinnitskaya Oblast's Bershadskiy and Lvovskaya Oblast's Stryyskiy Rayons in meeting the tasks ensuing from the decisions of the 26th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses was discussed. Reports were delivered by Bershadskiy and Stryyskiy Rayispolkom Chairmen I.A. Palagniy and R.M. Petrovskiy.

The presidium observed that under the leadership of the party authorities the soviets of Bershadskiy and Stryyskiy Rayons are performing a considerable amount of organizational work in mobilizing the working people to meet the tasks determined by the 26th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses and the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum and to fulfill the 11th 5-Year Plan. Socialist competition is widespread among the rayons' labor collectives for the successful production of agricultural products and the fuller use of intrinsic resources for further developing the economy and improving the work of enterprises and organizations of the services sphere.

Considerable attention is being given to raising the level of activity of the rural soviets and reinforcing them with skilled personnel. Supervision of the implementation of decrees of party and state authorities and their own decisions has been stepped up in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee decree "A Further Refinement of Control and the Verification of Performance in Light of the 26th CPSU Congress' Decisions." Deputy groups and posts and the deputies are being enlisted more actively in organizing the execution of the soviets' decisions.

In implementing the party's agrarian policy, the soviets are performing purposeful work to intensify agriculture and introduce the achievements of science and advanced experience in production. The farms of Bershadskiy Rayon completed the first year of the 5-year plan for meat, eggs and wool procurement ahead of schedule. The rural workers of Stryyskiy Rayon fulfilled the quotas for the sale to the state of grain, potatoes, vegetables and the main types of animal husbandry products. The organized wintering of livestock has been accomplished on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of both rayons and active preparations are under way for spring field work. Household product and trading enterprises coped with last year's plans, the physical plant of public education and cultural enterprises was reinforced and the level of educational work among the population rose.

At the same time, the session observed that there are still appreciable shortcomings in the organizational work of the soviets in the said rayons. Proper supervision is not being exercised everywhere of the implementation of organizational-management measures confirmed at soviet sessions and important questions of comprehensive economic and social development are being lost sight of in places, which is negatively reflected in the use of the rayons' resources and potential for a further upsurge of agricultural and industrial production and final work results.

Summing up the discussion of this question, A.F. Vatchenko emphasized that consistent and persistent struggle to successfully realize the tasks ensuing from the decisions of the 26th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Congresses currently determines the organizational and educational work of the republic's soviets at all levels. The party, soviet and management authorities of Bershadskiy and Stryyskiy Rayons have done a great deal for the development of the economy, culture and services sphere. However, what has been achieved should be viewed from the standpoint of the accomplishment of tomorrow's tasks, the full use of all resources and the elimination of oversights occurring in individual areas of management. Much needs to be done to ensure a high rate of agricultural production -- the basis for successful accomplishment of the food program. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev emphasized at the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum, it is essential to reduce agriculture's dependence on there being no unfavorable weather conditions, which should be regarded not as an exception but as a phenomenon quite customary for our climate. The rayon soviets must also pay more attention to industrial and construction enterprises. They are called on to contribute as much as possible with the resources and forms characteristic of them to the unconditional fulfillment of production quotas and socialist pledges by each labor collective in the rayons. It is essential to step up the work on reorganization of the countryside and road building and supervision of the work of stores, restaurants, consumer service workshops and centers and health service establishments, display constant concern for a rise in the level of consumer service and better deal with the development of the citizens' subsidiary farms.

In a decree, the presidium determined the Bershadskiy and Stryyskiy Rayon soviets' concrete tasks. Republic oblispolkoms, rayispolkoms and gorispolkoms are obliged to raise the level of leadership of the activity of the lower soviet authorities and the responsibility of their leaders, departments and administrations for implementation of the plans for economic and social development in accordance with the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers decree "A Further Increase in the Role of the Soviets of People's Deputies in Economic Building," step up supervision of the implementation of organizational-management measures for fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and develop more extensively the labor collectives' socialist competition for the ahead-of-schedule fulfillment of the quotas of the second year of the 11th 5-Year Plan and for a fitting greeting of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

Questions concerning the results of the mass organizational work of the republic's local soviets in 1981 and the tasks for its further improvement, of awards to mothers of large families and a number of other items were also examined.

Ya.Ya. Kolotukha, secretary of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; P.I. Moskalkov, T.F. Nauta, V.A. Plyutinskiy and V.F. Temnyy, members of the Presidium; A.N. Yakimenko, chairman of Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court; and other spoke in the discussion on the questions.

PROFESSOR ON LACK OF POLITICAL ECONOMY SPECIALISTS

WA010520 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 13 Jan 82 p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Professor G. Goshadze, chief of the political economy faculty at the Georgian Agricultural Institute: "The High Duty of the Social Scientists"]

[Text] In our country the university system unites within its ranks about 80 percent of all scientists working in the social sciences. Hence the obviousness of the crucial role that the university system is called on to play in working on the most important problems set by the 26th CPSU Congress in training a new type of specialist who organically combines a broad scientific outlook with true professionalism and has a good knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory and is able to apply it in practice.

Speaking at the all-union conference of chiefs of social sciences faculties that took place last year, CPSU Central Committee Secretary M.A. Suslov noted in particular the broad range of problems facing specialists in political economy.

In recent years there has been a marked improvement in the teaching of the social sciences within the university system, lectures have become more profound and qualified, and the availability of appropriate textbooks and economic and political literature has been set up more precisely. The social sciences are taught throughout the entire period of studies. Many students master the classics of Marxism-Leninism using the original sources, and practical work in political economy has been introduced in all universities.

All this is good, and such changes can only be welcomed. However, many acute problems still exist and require solution. It is a matter primarily of organizing the teaching of the social disciplines and of the composition of the professorial and teaching staffs.

There was a time, for example, when for 1/2 the teachers the idea of joining the staff of political economy faculties at universities remained only a dream. The competition for postgraduate places in this speciality was quite fierce.

Subsequently, however, the situation changed considerably. Today, only a few of the political economy faculties in the republic's VUZ's are fully staffed with specialist at the appropriate levels.

Why is this? Why has such a situation developed? It is primarily because in recent years the contingent of students has grown significantly while the staffs of faculties teaching this discipline have remained unaltered or have grown only insignificantly. The number of capable young people applying for postgraduate work has also decreased.

Given this situation, the local VUZ's have found themselves in a disadvantageous position. Almost all the doctors of economic sciences and professors with specialized basic education in political economy work in VUZ's located in the central part of the republic capital. For our agricultural institute, and also for the zoological institute, which is also located at a distance from the city, it is difficult to keep the good, knowledgeable specialist or reliable worker. And what of the VUZ's located in other cities? A student is a student regardless of where he studies, be it Kutaisi, Gori or Tbilisi. Each needs the same conditions and quality of teaching, the more so when it is matter of qualified teaching of the social sciences.

This question was also addressed by the all-union conference, where it was stressed that the shortage of social scientists with high qualifications -- professors and doctors of sciences -- is being felt extremely acutely in many VUZ's: more than 1/2 of the faculties do not have them on their staffs.

Since this is precisely the kind of situation that has developed in our republic, it is essential to take the necessary steps to achieve a better distribution of the scientific forces available. In this connection, in our view it is essential to make provisions for specialists who will transfer to work from Tbilisi and to provide additional material incentives (apartments, half pay from the original scientific research establishment and, as an exception to the rule, permission to work simultaneously for two higher educational establishments).

The existing rules do not provide opportunities for the teacher to work in his own faculty on an hourly paid basis, while at the same time doing this elsewhere. It is common knowledge that this gives rise to a unique kind of reverse flow. A teacher from one VUZ goes to another to work on an hourly paid basis, while his colleague goes to the first VUZ and does the same thing. The effect of this practice can be seen from the following example. At the department of political economy in the humanities of the Tbilisi State University about 600 hours are allotted for 3 visiting teachers, while at the same university the figure for the natural sciences is 2,500 hours for 11 teachers. At the Georgian Agricultural Institute about 1,200 hours are allotted for visiting teachers.

Taking into account the situation that has developed, perhaps it would be more expedient to allow, as an exception, the chiefs or members of faculties to deliver lectures and hold seminars on an hourly paid basis in parallel with their main work load. Of course, the faculty operates normally when it is staffed with the full complement of teachers. Faculty chiefs cannot make the same kinds of demands on invited teachers as they do on staff workers. Moreover, in each student group, in addition to lecturing, the teacher is obliged to carry out a complex of educational work and to strive to raise the level of educational work, and this is easier if he is a member of the appropriate faculty in a given VUZ.

All this must be a matter of some concern to us. And the main way to solve the problem is by restructuring the system for training teaching staffs.

In our republic, very few young people are doing postgraduate work in political economy. A single base faculty at the Tbilisi State University mainly handles this postgraduate work. Today, there are three full-time postgraduates and four doing correspondence courses. And this is not enough. How can such a number meet the requirements of the university political economy faculties where 164 people are working? It cannot be done. In the near future it would be desirable to increase significantly the intake of postgraduates. And not only in this faculty but also at the other two universities and at the political economy faculties at the Georgian Polytechnical Institute, the Tbilisi Pedagogical Institute imeni A.S. Pushkin and the Tbilisi Pedagogical Institute for Foreign Languages. Some postgraduates could also be accepted by the Georgian Agricultural Institute faculty of political economy. This position is reinforced by the fact that at this institute the number of people in the economics faculty studying under the political economy program is the same as at the Tbilisi State University (250 to 300 students). And at the Georgian Agricultural Institute there are many very capable and promising young people who can undertake successful postgraduate studies.

In our view the questions posed in this article are topical not only for our VUZ alone, and their resolution will make it possible in the future to raise even higher the level of social sciences teaching in the VUZ's and to strengthen educational work with young people.

POLL OF CADRES CITED ON EFFECTS ON LABOR

WA020825 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Jan 82 p 2

[Article by Doctor of Philosophical Science V. Sbytov, deputy director of the Institute for Sociological Research of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "The Facets of Education"]

[Text] The contemporary Soviet intelligentsia consists of highly qualified workers of intellectual labor whose world view and social activity proceed from the ideology of the working class and the interests of building a communist society. The practice of socialism has refuted the technocratic theories that are widespread in the West and that absolutize the role of the intelligentsia in the modern world, and it has refuted the inventions of bourgeois sociologists concerning "contradictions" between the state and the intelligentsia in our country. In reality, the Soviet people's intelligentsia stands firmly on positions of Marxism-Leninism, and the growth of its numbers and social functions simply signifies the dynamic development of socialist society.

The interest of social scientists in the intelligentsia is a result above all of the constantly increasing importance of the work of specialists in all branches of the economy. Today, more than 26.5 million workers with a higher and secondary specialized education are working in industry, science, culture and other branches, and the proportion of the intelligentsia in the population of the country is second after the working class. Practice shows that the progress of production, its efficiency and a zealous use of resources depend to a large extent on the quality of the work of specialists and their ideological-political and moral tempering. A sociological study conducted in 64 scientific research institutes and organizations of Moscow and Novosibirsk was devoted to study of the important social and economic and ideological problems that are characteristic of the scientific and technical intelligentsia.

By the Measure of Labor

Before moving on to the issues that directly concerned the sociologists in this study, I would like briefly, on the basis of a few examples, to show the chief trend of present-day science -- its penetration into all spheres of human activity. Whereas in 1950 there were 163,000 scientific workers, today their number approaches 1.5 million. As for expenditures for the development of science and technology, during the last two decades they have increased more than three time and during the 10th 5-Year Plan they came to slightly less than R97 billion. True, during the 1970's the increase in the number of scientists slowed somewhat, but an attentive analysis of this process provides grounds for assuming that in the future the basic direction of the growth of scientific and technical cadres will be not so much quantitative as an increase in qualifications and, correspondingly, in the efficiency of their work.

Yes, it is precisely the scientific cadres that have been and remain the most important component in the country's scientific and technical potential. In addition, as experience shows, the quality of scientific research depends basically on the personality of the scientist, the degree of his interest in his work and the goals and stimuli by which he is guided in his daily work. This is why in our study we tried first of all to bring to light in those responding to the questionnaires such a principled motive for behavior as satisfaction with one's work. It has to be noted that this motive belongs among the most complex and multifaceted elements of human life, and with the scientific and technical intelligentsia, it comes in for a high level of criticism and self-criticism and is subject to opinions that are characteristic of this milieu. What did the results of the study show? Only a little more than 1/2 of the scientific workers are completely satisfied with their work: 54.4 percent in Moscow and 55.2 percent in Novosibirsk.

I think that these figures, with corrections for possible inaccuracies, nevertheless reveal substantial reserves for increasing the labor activeness of scientific and technical workers, since an overall and complex feeling of satisfaction with one's work and the awareness of its importance and usefulness serve as a powerful morale stimulus. Of course, the reasons for the dissatisfaction with work also interested the sociologists. It turned out that almost the chief "barrier" on the road to high labor productivity has now become the performance by scientific workers of the kind of work that could be handled by less qualified workers. Around 90 percent of the questioned scientists spoke about this and, in our view, such uniformity of opinion should sharpen attention on the problems of labor organization in scientific research institutes and organizations.

Socialist competition in the scientific research institutes and designing bureaus and the system of moral and material stimulation are an important factor that exercises a direct influence on the content and efficiency of labor and on improving the social and moral qualities of scientific workers and engineers. Of course, it is necessary here to take account of the specific nature of the work of one or another scientific research or planning subdivision, and the distance from an idea to the final results, which is very different in the different spheres of labor of scientific and technical workers. The questionnaires showed that it is precisely in this most complicated area of the organization of competition that most of the shortcomings that are characteristic of formalism are to be found. For example, in Moscow 91.5 percent of the respondents and in Novosibirsk 71.2 percent participate in various forms of labor rivalry. It would seem that the mass nature of the competition exists, and that it is only a matter of defining the victors. However, more than 60 percent of the participants in the study noted that in the competition the criteria for evaluating basic and applied work have not been sufficiently worked out, and there are no clear orientation points for comparing the work of the subdivisions of even a single collective, to say nothing of neighboring collectives. More than 27 percent of the participants in the study pointed to formalism in the totalling of competition results, and a substantial number of the respondents emphasized the existence of important defects in determing the personal contribution of workers to the overall results and the absence of publicity in the competition.

The consequences of miscalculations in the organization of labor from the point of view of the economy are well known. Our study showed that flaws in practical work, as a rule, have an effect on the moral criteria of people. Seeing that in certain cases the amount of a material reward depends not so much on the direct results of work, the quantity and quality of the labor that has been put into it, as on the position a worker has, the category of an institute, its departmental membership or even the administrative temperament of its leader, a certain segment of the participants in this study demonstrated a lack of confidence that the results of their personal labor, the authority of a researcher and advancement up the service ladder are based solely on the relationship to work.

Through the Lever of Management

A group of issues that involved planning and management in scientific research institutes and designing bureaus was related closely to problems of the organization of scientific activity. Here also there was a substantial, in our opinion, vein of reserves whose consistent realization could and should significantly increase the yield from scientific research collectives and make the labor and moral education of scientific workers more effective. The chief thing in this sphere is seen today as the clearly insufficient participation, "involvement" by scientists as specialists in the development and fulfillment of the social and economic development plans of their collectives. The greater part of the respondents (in Moscow 69.2 percent, in Novosibirsk 74 percent) was simply unacquainted with these plans. Of course, the fact that 65.3 percent of the participants in the survey in Moscow and 73.4 percent in Novosibirsk spoke of their lack of participation in the realization of the social and economic plan of their collective during the past 5-year plan cannot be regarded as normal. What does this kind of situation turn into in the moral sense? Remaining aloof from the main concerns of the collective, a substantial segment of this collective willy-nilly turns into spectators, with the corresponding psychology and feelings.

If nothing else, take the evaluation of the system of planning and management in scientific collectives; only 19.3 percent of the respondents in Moscow and 3.9 percent in Novosibirsk believe that the developed practice of planning scientific research work ensures rhythmic work by scientific workers. I believe that these indicators are a blend of both the real shortcomings in planning and the exaggerated critical attitude that is characteristic of workers who have found themselves in the position of outside observers. It is quite certain that if the participation of these people in collective affairs were fuller and more energetic, not only would the planning situation change for the better but also their opinions of the planned management of the collective.

The results of the study showed that the authoritarian and the liberal are the most common types of leadership in scientific collectives. As is known, both excessive firmness and impermissible laxity in leadership manage, in essence, without seeking real support in the collective, in its aktiv and in public opinion and do not try to develop criticism and self-criticism. Is it not here that we have the sources of various shortcomings in management and education that, as practice proves, do not arise if the style of leadership in the collective is democratic and organically includes the opinion of the majority in the structure of a managerial decision? It is significant in this respect that only 23 percent of the scientific and technical workers questioned by us believe that methods of persuasion are made full use of in the leadership of their collectives.

The personality of the director is of decisive importance today in the tone of the practical and social life of a collective -- this opinion was established by the vast majority of those who participated in the sociological questionnaires. What qualities of their leaders do scientists, designers and engineers evaluate as positive? First of all "a good specialist," second -- "full of initiative," third -- "firm convictions" and fourth -- "great creative capacities." Of course, by themselves these qualities do not give rise to any doubt about their necessity. But their sequence inclines one to some reflection. The more so since in the questionnaires such qualities as "ability to lead," "ability to organize," "exactingness" and "ability to convince" take the last places.

It seems to us that here we are coming up against insufficient knowledge on the part of the managerial element of the modern educational and social psychological methods of leading scientific research collectives. Apparently, this is the result of the lack of special training of the leaders of certain scientific research institutes and designing bureaus who might be (and are, as reality confirms) talented scientists and, unfortunately, mediocre organizers and educators. The question of improving the training of the leaders of scientific collectives appears to be an important one for many of the participants in our study.

Through the Sphere of Ideology

The results of the questionnaire show with total clarity that today the Soviet scientist and engineer are required to have in equal degree a creative approach to their work and a high level of political and philosphical maturity and of civic responsibility for the fruits of their personal and collective work. An analysis of the responses received by us to questions regarding the social consequences of the scientific and technological revolution, the influence of the scientific and technological revolution on social developments and the important problems of further strengthening the relaxation of international tension shows that the ability to correctly understand the social and political consequences of scientific research directly and beneficially influences the life situation of scientific and technical workers and makes it a basis for purposefulness.

It is difficult to overestimate the role that is played here by political education. The questionnaires showed a high degree of involvement by scientific and technical workers in such studies: in Moscow all of the respondents study in the system of political and economic education; in Novosibirsk 72 percent do. It is characteristic that such a form of the political education of scientists as theoretical and methodological seminars enjoys broad popularity among the students, and the participants in the study take note of the possibility for a wide and democratic discussion here of sharp and difficult problems. At the same time, the results of the study showed that in the system of political studies for scientific research workers the study of Marxist-Leninist theory is given somewhat less attention than the study of practical politics.

It is clear that the effectiveness of ideological work depends to an enormous extent on the training of propagandist cadres and their ability to teach and convince people. The results of the study revealed that a definite segment of the ideological aktiv in scientific research collectives sees a discrepancy between its propagandistic work and its personal inclinations and desires.

One of the basic conclusions of the study that I would like to give an account of here is the judgment that an active vital position is a very complex and multilayered alloy of the practical, ideological-political and moral qualities not only of separate individuals but also of the labor collectives. This concept is manifested in a large number of everyday situations, each time checking the world view and values of people against practice. In our opinion, one of the accurate signs of the maturity of the individual today is an attraction to public activities. It is gratifying to note that real participation in public work by the questioned respresentatives of the scientific and technical intelligentsia comes to more than 90 percent in Moscow and Novosibirsk. In this we see the true result of the multifaceted ideological and educational work of party organizations, the fruit of a beneficial creative atmosphere in a collective and, if we may speak more broadly, an invaluable product of the Soviet way of life. To make full use of this moral and political potential is an important task of the leaders of research subdivisions and of all those who, through the calling of their public and professional duty, organize and direct the efforts of our scientists.

ALIYEV ADDRESSES NAGORNO-KARABAKHSKAYA AKTIV

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[AZERINFORM report on proceedings of Nagorno-Karabakhskaya Autonomous Oblast party aktiv meeting in Stepanakert; date not specified]

[Excerpts] The working people of Nagornyy Karabakh have resolved to scale new heights in the second year of the 5-year plan, which will go down in the history of our multinational fatherland as the year of a glorious jubilee of the USSR. The tasks of the oblast party organization in successfully fulfilling the 1982 quotas and appropriately greeting the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR were discussed at a meeting of the Nagorno-Karabakhskaya Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] party aktiv held in Stepanakert.

In the hall were pacesetters of industrial and agricultural production and workers of party, soviet and trade union authorities of the NKAO and figures of science, literature and art of Azerbaijan who had participated in the festivities on the opening of the Vagif Mausoleum in Shusha.

G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee; G.A. Gasanov, F.E. Musayev, Z.M. Yusif-zade, B.S. Kevorkov and K.N. Ragimov, members and candidate members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Politburo; A.F. Dashdamirov and V.M. Gulizade, heads of Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee departments; G.B. Abdullayev, president of the Azerbaijan SSR Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Mirza Ibragimov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Writers' Union Board and people's writer of the republic; members of the Nagorno-Karabakhskiy Obkom Politburo; and others constituted the presidium.

The report was delivered by B.S. Kevorkov, first secretary of Nagorno-Karabakhskiy Obkom.

Having observed that in the period that began with the memorable Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee August 1969 Plenum the republic party organization has consistently and unswervingly ensured successful implementation of the brilliant line of the CPSU and the advice, recommendations and instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and has achieved impressive results in all areas of building communism, the speaker dwelt on the successes of the working people of Nagorno-Karabakh. The entire production and social infrastructure of the autonomous oblast changed strikingly in the 9th-10th 5-Year Plans and continues to change. The Teterchayskiy reservoir and power complex, the Agdam-Stepanakert railroad line, the Yevlakh-Stepanakert-Nakhichevan gas main, the construction, modernization and expansion of a whole number of most important industrial enterprises -- including in such progressive sectors as engineering and electrical engineering, wide-ranging measures for the specialization and concentration of agricultural production and its transition to an industrial footing, the creation of a teacher-training institute in the oblast, an increase in the number of secondary specialized educational institutions, the construction of many new schools, a considerable growth of culture and an expansion of the network of cultural-educational establishments -- all this is inseparably connected with the great assistance and support and concern and attention constantly shown the NKAO by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and its Politburo.

Industrial production in the NKAO increased by a factor of 2.7 in the 10th 5-Year Plan. This was more than envisaged by the quota. The level of labor productivity achieved in industry was above the 5-year plan target by a factor of 2.5, accounting for over 80 percent of the entire increase in industrial production.

Compared with the 9th 5-Year Plan, the average annual agricultural production growth increased in the 10th by a factor of 2.5 against that envisaged by the plan [as published]. The labor productivity growth in the agrarian sector of the economy was triple the 5-year plan quota, which made it possible to obtain almost 97 percent of the entire gross agricultural product increase.

The plans for economic and social development in 1981 were implemented successfully. All of the oblast's industrial enterprises fulfilled the annual plan for the sale and manufacture of commodity output and sold more than R16.5 million worth of products over and above the plan. Industrial production growth was 8.3 percent. The annual plans in agriculture were more than fulfilled. Under difficult weather conditions, the viticulturists cultivated a record harvest, selling the state 145,000 tons of grapes. A good start was made in the first year of the 5-year plan by the stockbreeders, who increased production thanks to intensive factors.

The decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum determine the paths of the NKAO's further economic and social development. The 5-year plan provides for an increase in industrial output of 43.6 percent and in labor productivity in industry of 28.1 percent. This will be achieved thanks to the commissioning of new progressive works, a refinement of the intrasectorial structure of industrial production and an acceleration of scientific-technical progress. On the basis of consistent implementation of the party's agrarian policy, the 5-year plan also contemplates a further increase in agricultural production. Some R160 million will be channeled into the development of the economy, which is R30 million more than in the 10th 5-Year Plan. The introduction of fixed capital here will outpace the volume of capital investments.

The present year is an important stage in the accomplishment of the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan. An increase in industrial production of 12.4 percent and in labor productivity of 5 percent compared with last year is planned. High parameters have been determined for the production and procurement of all agricultural products. The volume of capital investments will increase 13.8 percent compared with 1981.

Speaking of the big and responsible tasks confronting the oblast's working people and the oblast party organization in the second year of the 5-year plan, Comrade Kevorkov dwelt on unutilized production potential. He observed, in particular, that certain industrial enterprises are regularly disrupting the plans pertaining to the scheduled manufactured product list and supplies in accordance with contractual obligations. Of the 30 basic types of industrial products, the 1981 plan was not met for 11. The labor productivity growth rate declined last year at the Stepanakert bakery, the Askeran winery, the Mardakert timber works and the Gadrutskiy Rayon Selkhoztekhnika Association. The proportion of industrial products manufactured with the symbol of quality is extremely low.

In agriculture, fulfillment of plans for the production and procurement of farming and animal husbandry products has not yet been achieved by every kolkhoz and sovkhoz. Certain farms have reduced the production of animal husbandry products and the livestock herd. The production of milk has declined in Gadrutskiy Rayon and that of meat in Shushinskiy Rayon. Much has to be done for a further increase in per cow milk yield and average delivery weight of cattle.

An increase in the cereals' yield is a serious problem, and last year the indicator that was achieved was considerably lower than the republic average. In connection with the fact that almost the entire winter crop area in the oblast is on unirrigated, including droughty, land, it is essential to pay more attention to field-management techniques of cereals cultivation and create well-organized seed growing.

Last year 9 percent more capital investments were assimilated than in 1980, the volume of construction and installation increased by 12.2 percent and 80 percent more fixed capital was installed. At the same time, there are still serious shortcomings and breakdowns in the sector, planned quotas are not being met and capital construction is still lagging as a whole.

The tasks confronting us in 1982 and throughout the 11th 5-Year Plan, Comrade Kevorkov continued, require a further refinement of organizational, political and ideological work. And questions of personnel policy have a paramount role here. At the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) plenum, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev again drew the party committees' attention to the significance of a well-considered and stringent personnel policy for an increase in their influence on economic life. It is necessary in this area to continue to perfect all activity concerning the selection, assignment and training of personnel and to strive to ensure that it is conducted on the basis of strict observance of the Leninist principles

of people's selection according to their political and professional qualities and the creation of a full-fledged promotion reserve. This will enable us to avoid undue haste and an ill-considered approach, which are still sometimes permitted in personnel work by the party committees, particularly the Mardakertskiy and Martuninskiy Raykoms.

It is essential to raise supervision and the verification of performance to a higher level, which will contribute to the increased responsibility of personnel for their entrusted assignments, observance of party and state discipline, support for party decisions and fulfillment of plans for economic and social development.

In implementing measures for a refinement of ideological work in the spirit of the requirements of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee decree "A Further Improvement in Ideological and Political Education," the speaker emphasized, it is essential that we raise even higher the effectiveness of the system of political studies and economic education, lecture propaganda, mass political work and the mass information media and increase their influence on the accomplishment of national economic tasks. Close attention must be given to questions concerning the international and patriotic education of the working people, particularly the youth. It is important to emphasize this against the background of the tremendous amount of work that has been initiated everywhere for a fitting greeting of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

After recalling the March 1975 obkom plenum, at which the work on the working people's international education was analyzed from high-minded positions and the shortcomings that had been permitted in the past, particularly in the 1960's, in this important area of activity were sharply criticized, the speaker continued: Time has shown that we acted correctly, scrupulously and candidly in condemning all attempts to move from internationalist positions. The party organization of Nagornyy Karabakh and the oblast's working people wholly and fully approved and warmly supported the obkom plenum's decisions, displaying high political maturity. We will continue to perform broad, all-encompassing work most assertively and energetically on the international education of the working people and cherish as the apple of our eye the great gain of our Leninist party and the Soviet state -- the friendship of the peoples.

On behalf of the participants in the meeting and the entire oblast party organization the speaker gave the assurance that the communists and working people of Nagornyy Karabakh would spare no efforts or energy in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU and 30th Azerbaijan Communist Party Congresses and would greet the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR with new labor accomplishments.

The Soviet people have embarked on the new year of 1982 in a good mood and full of optimism, A.M. Movsesyan, first secretary of Stepanakertskiy Gorkom, said, addressing the meeting. Looking back at the path that has been trodden and the work that has been done, we may say that we have something to be proud of! New industrial enterprises, animal husbandry complexes and other agricultural production facilities have been commissioned in the NKAO, as throughout the country. Thousands of Karabakh families have held house-warming parties in well-appointed homes.

After observing that the Stepanakert working people completed the first year of the 11th 5-Year Plan successfully, the speaker reported that R2.5 million worth of industrial output has been sold above the plan. Labor productivity has increased, and the proportion of products of the highest quality category has reached 16 percent. All these successes are the result of the selfless labor of the workers and specialists and were possible thanks to the daily assistance and attention displayed by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and republic government toward Nagornyy Karabakh. These achievements are the visible fruit of the CPSU's wise Leninist nationality policy. The working people of Stepanakert and all Nagornyy Karabakh warmly support and approve the foreign and domestic policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government and express tremendous gratitude to the Central Committee Politburo and dear Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally for the titanic activity aimed at further increasing our motherland's economic and defensive might.

The entire work of the city party organization, the speaker continued, is geared to the successful fulfillment of the national economic plans and socialist pledges and an increase in the political and labor activity of the masses. Having dwelt on questions of the gorkom's organizational-political and ideological activity, Comrade Movsesyan observed that work on propaganda of the ideas of the friendship and fraternity of our country's peoples and the working people's international, patriotic education had been stepped up considerably in connection with preparations for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

Hero of Socialist Labor S.V. Mamunts, director of Mardakertskiy Rayon's Sovkhoz imeni XXII Partsyezda and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, spoke. For the 12th year in succession, he said, the working people of our republic have achieved high indicators in industrial and agricultural production and in all spheres of social life. These tremendous successes have been possible thanks to the purposeful, fruitful activity of the Leninist party and its Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev personally and the tremendous concern that is displayed for a further upsurge of Azerbaijan's economy and culture. At the same time, these achievements are a result of the great work performed by the republic party organization, the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo in the 1970's and currently. The NKAO, whose working people are fully aware of the great concern being displayed for their region by the Azerbaijan Communist Party and the republic government, is also making a worthy contribution to Soviet Azerbaijan's successes.

Comrade Mamunts analyzed the farm's activity in the 10th 5-Year Plan, whose quotas its workers fulfilled in 3 years 6 months, ensuring a high profitability of agricultural production. The sovkhoz's collective worked in shock fashion in the first year of the present 5-year plan also: The gross product totaled more than R35 million and net profit was in excess of R12 million. Some 25,000 tons of grapes were cultivated and harvested, and the yield, moreover, was 340 quintals. Stockbreeders and workers of other sectors marked the year with considerable successes. At the same time, the speaker observed, we still have much unutilized potential for a further increase in the production of agricultural products, increased yield in plant growing and an increase in the production of animal husbandry products.

S.M. Orbelyan, celebrated weaver of the Karshi Silk Works imeni 26 Bakinskikh Komissarov and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, mounted the platform. Our country, she said, has embarked on the 60th year of the formation of the USSR. Socialist competition has spread in the labor collectives everywhere for a fitting greeting of this great and joyous holiday. I fulfilled my personal quota in the first year of the 11th 5-Year Plan 177 percent, having woven approximately 25,000 meters of crepe de Chine. And mounting a vigil in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR, I have adopted a new, upgraded pledge -- to fulfill 2 5-year quotas in the 5-year period. Many workers are operating at the works considerably ahead of the plan. They include Amaliya Agadzhanyan, Minaya Aliyeva, Roza Petrosyan, Antonina Pashchenko, Galya Arustamyan and Asmik Pogosyan, whose selfless labor merits emulation.

Being a communist, Comrade Orbelyan continued, means being responsible not only for one's own affairs but also for the work of the entire collective. We cannot fail to be disturbed by a situation in which inadequate use is being made of the pool of looms, work time is sometimes spent unproductively, production discipline is breached and there are interruptions in the supply of raw materials. The speaker seriously criticized the republic Ministry of Light Industry, which is continuing the incorrect practice of planning in accordance with a hypothetical "gross." The practice of adjusting plans in a downward direction, which harms the economy and has a negative effect on people's moral education, is absolutely unwarranted.

Like all the oblast's workers, the construction workers are fully resolved to mark the jubilee year with new labor successes, M.S. Mekhtiyev, painter-plasterer of the Shusha Construction and Installation Administration No 92 of the republic Ministry of Industrial Construction's Trust No 9, said in his speech. He reported that the administration's collective fulfilled last year's plan ahead of schedule, having assimilated more than R2 million of capital investments. Among the projects installed by the construction workers were the magnificent mausoleum of the poet Vagif in Shusha and a 40-unit apartment house and an administrative building in Askeran. The quality of the construction also rose considerably.

Speaking of the tasks of the construction workers ensuing from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) Plenum and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech there, the speaker stressed the need to build more rapidly, in better quality and on a contemporary basis.

We are deeply grateful to the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and republic government, Comrade Mekhtiyev said, for their concern for the development of the resort zone in Shusha. Much has been done in the city recently. However, this work is not being performed rapidly enough, we believe.

The construction workers of Nagornyy Karabakh, the speaker promised, would do everything to ensure that the native parts become even more beautiful and that high-quality construction projects appear in our cities.

There have been tremendous changes in recent years in the life of the NKAO, S.S. Bagdasaryan, head of the Physics Department of the Stepanakert Pedagogical Institute imeni 60-Letiya Sovetskogo Azerbaydzhana, said. Further evidence of this was the creation in the oblast center of the Pedagogical Institute, which trains teacher personnel for Nagornyy Karabakh. Thanks to the great concern being displayed by the party and government for the new VUZ, its physical plant has been enlarged and the teaching process and ideological-educational work among the student body is improving annually. The department's relations with the scientific research institutes of Baku and a number of other cities have been strengthened.

At the same time, the speaker said, much still has to be done to strengthen ideological education, including among the teachers. There are still people who sometimes, by their unseemly actions, demean this high title and perpetrate antisocial acts.

Comrade Bagdasaryan believes that a need has arisen for the creation in Nagornyy Karabakh of a branch of the Azerbaijan SSR Academy of Sciences, which would contribute to the strengthening of research work in the mountainous region and the solution of a number of important problems of the national economy.

The meeting was addressed by G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, who was warmly greeted by those assembled.

Dear Comrades! Our country has embarked on a new stage of its development. The decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the report of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the congress determined a program of further communist building in our country and the peace program for the 1980's.

The 1st year of the 11th 5-Year Plan -- the year of the 26th party congress -- was marked by big achievements in implementation of the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and the fulfillment of plans for the country's economic and social development. It is well known that this year was very complex and difficult and unfavorable most of all for agriculture; this, naturally, did certain damage to agricultural production and, consequently, our entire economy. The difficulties were made worse by the complications that arose in the world through the fault of the U.S. administration, which has opted for an expansionist, aggressive course in its foreign policy. The events in Poland, which are an internal matter of the Polish People's Republic, have been used by reactionary circles of the imperialist states to further complicate the international situation.

But even under these conditions our country has taken a further big step forward along the path to building communism. Our motherland's economic potential has increased, as has its defensive might, and the plans for economic and social development in 1981 were fulfilled in all indicators. The considered, realistic and farsighted peace-loving foreign policy of our party, a policy aimed at preserving peace and the peoples' security, elicits the approval and support of all countries of the socialist community and all of the planet's progressive peace-loving forces.

As you know, comrades, the rate of development of agriculture in Azerbaijan is growing with every passing year. We reach new heights annually. But considering the difficult climatic conditions, last year's successes are particularly impressive. And this is why they were praised so highly by the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his very warm, cordial greetings to Azerbaijan's working people. (stormy applause)

Good successes were achieved in 1981 in the capital construction sphere. We had achieved pretty good growth rate indicators in this sector even earlier, but last year the capital construction plans were overfulfilled in the main indicators for the first time.

Comrades! It is gratifying that all these years all regions of our republic have been developing evenly and rapidly and that each of them is making its contribution to Azerbaijan's general success. The contribution of the NKAO to our common achievements is also high and significant. (applause)

The successes of the NKAO, the oblast party organization and the oblast's working people in these years are impressive. The economy is developing successfully, and substantial positive changes have been achieved in the sphere of culture and spiritual life.

In his report, Comrade B.S. Kevorkov, first secretary of Nagorno-Karabakhskiy Obkom, cited figures and facts convincingly demonstrating the rapid growth of the economy and social life of Nagornyy Karabakh in the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans and in 1981. I shall not presume on your attention and repeat the figures. I would merely like to cite certain comparative data testifying to the dynamic development of the oblast's economy in recent years.

As you know, in the 1950's-1960's the Azerbaijan economy in its development lagged seriously behind the union-average indicators. We set the task of overcoming the lag and we achieved this. In the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans our republic's economy grew at a rate outdistancing the union-average indicators. It is heartening that the growth rate of the economy here was higher for your oblast than the average for Azerbaijan.

In the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans industrial production volume increased by a factor of 2.2 in Azerbaijan, which was far higher than for the country, and in the NKAO by a factor of more than 4! (applause) Average annual agricultural production in this period increased by a factor of 2.1 in Azerbaijan and by a factor of over 3 in the NKAO! (applause)

Let us take 1981 -- the 1st year of the 11th 5-Year Plan. Industrial production in our republic increased 7 percent. But it increased 8.3 percent in the NKAO. What does this indicate? That, of course, under the leadership of the oblast party organization the working people of Nagornyy Karabakh achieved considerable successes in the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans in the development of the economy, social life and culture.

At our meeting today the speakers have spoken with gratitude about the railroad, which has reached Stepanakert, and the gas main that has been laid. I remember how in 1971, when I participated in the oblast party conference, the construction of these projects of such vital importance to the region was spoken of as a problem that would be difficult to solve. Talk of the laying of the water main and the creation of the Pedagogical Institute was carried out in the same vein. And yet all this is now reality.

Of course, the solution of these questions was not easy and required huge capital investments and considerable effort on the part of republic and union authorities. But all was resolved, and we speak of all this today with a feeling of legitimate pride in our autonomous oblast and our republic of Azerbaijan. (stormy applause)

Today we visited construction projects, including the agricultural engineering plant, which is under construction. This is a large-scale enterprise of spacious buildings with total production space of 25,000 square meters, which in Stepanakert is unequaled in size. It is being built in accordance with a sound plan.

We also visited the construction site of another plant. A good building has been erected here, and modern building materials and structures have been used. We were told that construction and installation work would be completed by the middle of this year, equipment had been ordered on schedule, the personnel are being trained and, it should be supposed, the new enterprise will begin producing in the latter half of the year.

I shall not talk about the other industrial and agricultural enterprises that have arisen in this time in the NKAO for enough has been said for everyone to be persuaded at what a rapid pace the economy and social life developed in the oblast in the 1970's and how well the 1980's have begun.

What do the tasks amount to? Very briefly, a continued refinement of all our organizational and party-ideological work, a further increase in the efficiency of the entire economy and all social production -- in industry, agriculture and capital construction -- and on this basis the mobilization of our forces and potential for a rise in people's well-being and an improvement in their working and living conditions.

At the same time, all this is possible given a high-minded evaluation of what has been achieved and the shortcomings that exist in our work, the mobilization of resources and the implementation of practical measures for their efficient use. And there are many shortcomings in our activity, both in the economy and in party-ideological work, and we discussed this in detail at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee December 1981 plenum.

Of course, there are also shortcomings in the activity of the NKAO party organization, not only in the sphere of the economy but also in ideological, organizational work. These shortcomings were discussed at the obkom plenum, which discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1981) Plenum and the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum, and have been discussed at the meeting today in the report and the speeches.

But at the same time I would like to draw your attention to certain, I believe, essential points, primarily concerning output quality. The 1981 results show that the proportion of products produced by you with the symbol of quality constituted only 7 percent, which is less than 1/2 the republic-average indicator. This is intolerable. As you know, like the 10th, the 11th 5-Year Plan has been declared one of efficiency and quality. It is a question of efficiency in all areas: the quality of labor and production management and, of course, the quality of the product. I believe that you are making insufficient use of potential here. You have a large amount of industrial products -- food and wine -- which are not subject to certification, it is true. Nonetheless, it is necessary and possible to considerably increase the proportion of products bearing the honorary seal in the total volume of manufactured products. You should not, I believe, link the prospects for an increase in the volume of products bearing the symbol of quality with the commissioning of new plants. It is necessary now to raise product quality at the operating enterprises (applause). And when the new plants do appear, I would like to see all of their products manufactured with the symbol of quality.

I would also like to make a few observations about agriculture. Your agriculture is narrowly specialized. In plant growing, for example, pride of place goes to grapes and then grain. The remaining sectors constitute a very small proportion. Last year you delivered only 5,000 tons of vegetables and you are gradually abandoning tobacco. The production of local silkworm cocoons is also declining, although the Karshi silk works is in need of them. This is not an entirely state-minded approach to matters, I believe.

Viticulture is the traditional sector of agricultural production. Grape production increased considerably in the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans in Nagornyy Karabakh.

As far as grain growing is concerned, here you deserve serious criticism. You have the biggest grainfield in the republic -- 34,000 hectares. But the grain yield last year, which, incidentally, was the most successful for this sector in the NKAO, constituted only 19.4 quintals, whereas it constituted 24.4 quintals for the republic as a whole.

The proportion of meat and milk produced in Nagornyy Karabakh is 10 percent of the republic's total animal husbandry product. The growth rate of animal husbandry productivity is lower here than the republic average. And this means that you are yielding positions that have already been won. I believe you should reexamine your pledges through the end of the 5-year plan both in per cow milk yield and average cattle delivery weight in order for your indicators to be higher than the republic average. Nagornyy Karabakh is an animal husbandry region, and its workers must be in the front ranks of the stockbreeders' competition, bear their trademark aloft and set an example. (applause)

A few words about capital construction. The shortcomings in this sphere have been discussed self-critically here at the meeting, and this is good. However, despite your pace both in the 9th and, particularly, the 10th 5-Year Plans, capital investments remained unassimilated, and you were unable to commission all the fixed capital outlined by the plan. Nor are you utilizing all your potential in housing construction. Last year's plan for the delivery of apartment houses was not fulfilled.

I wish to say with a feeling of great satisfaction that the healthy moral-psychological atmosphere, businesslike, creative situation and spirit of friendship, fraternity and internationalism that have become established in the republic are completely characteristic of the NKAO and the oblast party organization as well. (applause) The obkom has performed a great deal of work in this period which has produced results.

The fruitful work being carried out by the obkom on the working people's international, patriotic education is eliciting approval and the utmost support. A high labor and political mood and an atmosphere of friendship and international fraternity characterize the life and activity of the Nagornyy Karabakh working people. (stormy applause)

Comrades! In speaking of your successes I would like to mention particularly the role of the obkom and its Politburo and, primarily, Comrade Boris Sarkisovich Kevorkov, first secretary of the obkom. (applause)

We started out today by visiting the city of Shusha, where we participated in the opening of the magnificent mausoleum erected at the grave of the outstanding Azerbaijan poet Vagif.

Familiarizing ourselves with the historical and memorable sites of Shusha, we noted with satisfaction that considerable changes have occurred here in recent years. It is well known that in 1976 the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and republic government adopted a decree on measures to further develop the resort complex in Shusha that also provided for questions connected with the restoration and preservation of historical and architectural monuments.

We reviewed today the monuments to the outstanding educators of the Armenian people -- Akop Akopyan, proletarian poet and a major figure of Armenian literature, and Muratsan, your fellow countryman and classical Armenian prose writer. With a feeling of profound respect for their work and activity in the name of the development of Armenian literature and Armenian culture, we laid flowers at the memorials to them -- handsome monuments. (stormy applause)

Comrades! In speaking of all this I wish to emphasize again and again the tremendous significance of community -- people's spiritual, personal community. This is why I believe that today is of special significance for the oblast and the republic. Eminent figures of science and culture of our republic, leaders of creative unions, writers, poets, composers, artists, film makers and scientists headed by the president of the Academy of Sciences have come to Nagornyy Karabakh. Such a large number of Azerbaijan's figures of science and culture has surely never visited Stepanakert and Shusha at the same time before. And it is good that this trip has taken place and bad that such a meeting on this scale has not taken place earlier. (stormy applause)

We believe that such meetings are useful and necessary. What our writers, poets, composers, artists, film makers and scientists have seen today in Shusha and Stepanakert is tremendously vital material for their further creative and scientific activity.

Representatives of the Nakhichevanskaya Autonomous Republic, adjacent rayons and the city of Kirovabad are here today. I hope that this meeting will help all of you to continue to develop labor competition and make more efficient use of socialist competition for the achievement of new successes in fulfilling the 11th 5-Year Plan. (applause)